

C44146 p.c. Ack. 17.3.55 calr.
COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1953

W. S. PARKER, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.I.H., D.P.H.

BRIGHTON

Pell (Brighton) Ltd., 105 Church Street

*To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the
County Borough of Brighton.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1953.

It is with the greatest satisfaction that I can report that the Infant Mortality Rate has been reduced to 24 per 1000, which is the lowest figure in the history of the Borough and compares favourably with the National average of 27. This death rate of infants dying under one year of age is the key figure by which the success of the public health measures within the borough can be judged. While the annual reduction continues, yet I must once again make the reservation that the happenings of a period of five years must be taken into account.

During the year the re-organisation of the health visiting service has been aided by the appointment of the first Superintendent Health Visitor. In addition, two extra Health Visitors were appointed and training bursaries were granted to two student health visitors to train for two further posts on the establishment. The Health Visitors working in the outer districts of the town have been granted car allowances which has increased the value of their work in a proportion far beyond the cost of the provision of this transport. To achieve even better results it is desirable that the Superintendent Health Visitor should be provided with transport. The supervision of a widespread district staff, ten clinics, and the varied calls in dealing with special medico-social problems is extremely difficult without convenient transport quite apart from the time expended in walking and waiting for buses.

The Health Committee has approved the establishment of an occupational therapy unit for the tuberculous. In addition the equipment of the ambulances with radio has been completed and has shown itself to be an aid to both economy and efficiency in the operation of this service.

The first full-time Domestic Help Supervisor took up her duties in July and her closer control is already making for a more efficient Domestic Help Service. The facilities will improve greatly, especially in the care of the aged and chronic sick, with the implementation in the coming year of the recommended 50% increase in the establishment of home helps.

During the year, in addition to the increase in the "Home Help" Service, the Health Committee have made preparation for free Whooping Cough immunisation for all infants and have increased the provision of after-care measures under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act. A notable advance has been the provision by the Health Committee of the necessary measures to aid the Education Authority in their new policy of annual chest X-ray examination for all who in the future will enter their service and have the care of children. The initial episode which has endorsed this policy is referred to in the Annual Report of the Principal School Medical Officer.

A course in Health Education methods was organised by the Central Council for Health Education in conjunction with the Health Department. Fifteen of the staff attended the three-day course and fifteen places were allocated to neighbouring authorities. Already the instruction is showing its value and it is anticipated that the course will be repeated in the coming year.

An additional Infant Welfare Centre was opened at St. Nicholas Church Hall, Saltdean. This will improve the service on the eastern border of the Borough.

I cannot conclude this report without acknowledging to the full the interest and timely advice of the Chairman (Councillor P. H. Buxton) and of the members of the Health Committee, the co-operation of my fellow Chief Officers and the effective liaison with the General Practitioners of the town and the Clinicians and Administrators of the local hospitals. I am especially grateful to Dr. J. E. Jameson, of the branch Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council in Brighton, without whose aid much of my work in the control of infectious disease would be impossible. Lastly, I would mention the staff of the Department, whose loyal work is represented by the contents of this report.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. S. PARKER,
Medical Officer of Health.

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MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES ON 31st DECEMBER, 1953

Health Committee:

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN J. E. HAY)	COUNCILLOR S. D. DEASON
ALDERMAN S. DAVEY	„ MRS. V. G. HARMER
„ W. G. DUDENEY	„ T. M. O'H. PARTRIDGE
„ J. A. T. LEAK	„ MRS. D. K. G. WATSON-
„ Miss D. E. STRINGER	„ MILLER (Chairman
COUNCILLOR G. B. BALDWIN	„ Housing Committee)
„ MRS. A. H. BEVIS	Miss E. HYSLOP
„ A. W. BRIGGS	Mr. C. C. TITCOMB
„ W. H. G. BUTTON	Mr. T. REES MORGAN
„ P. H. BUXTON (Chairman)	Mr. H. RAYNER
„ W. J. C. CLARKE	Dr. L. J. BEYNON
	Dr. D. ARCHDALE-SMITH

Health Services Sub-Committee:

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN HAY)	COUNCILLOR BRIGGS
ALDERMAN DUDENEY	„ BUTTON
„ LEAK	„ BUXTON
„ Miss STRINGER	„ MRS. HARMER
COUNCILLOR BALDWIN (Chairman)	„ PARTRIDGE
„ Mrs. BEVIS	Dr. BEYNON
	Miss HYSLOP

Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee:

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN HAY)	COUNCILLOR BUXTON
ALDERMAN Miss STRINGER (Chairman)	„ DEASON
COUNCILLOR Mrs. BEVIS	„ MRS. HARMER
„ BRIGGS	„ PARTRIDGE
	Dr. L. J. BEYNON
	Miss HYSLOP

Home Nursing Sub-Committee:

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN HAY)	COUNCILLOR Mrs. HARMER
ALDERMAN DUDENEY	„ PARTRIDGE
„ Miss STRINGER (Chairman)	Miss I. M. WATTS
COUNCILLOR Mrs. BEVIS	Mr H. B. THYER
„ BUXTON	Mrs. AUSTIN SMITH

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

W. S. PARKER, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.I.H., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

I. D. M. NELSON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

ROSA MORRISON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Senior Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.

BERYL P. EADIE,† B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.

G. H. C. WALMSLEY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Chest Physician.

R. F. WRIGHT,† B.Sc., A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C., Public Analyst.

S. GOURLEY,† M.R.C.V.S., Veterinary Officer.

R. S. CROSS,* F.R.San.I., F.S.I.A., Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Miss E. PATTERSON, R.S.C.N., S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert., Superintendent Health Visitor.

T. RASMUSSEN, Executive Officer Mental Health Service.

A. J. SUMPTER, Ambulance Supervisor.

Miss M. I. HUMPHERSON, Domestic Help Supervisor

Miss B. E. DAWSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., Matron Day Nursery.

R. L. SCOTOW,* Superintendent of Public Abattoir.

R. W. GRUTCHFIELD,* Chief Clerk.

* Holds Food Inspector's Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.

† Part-time.

VITAL AND GENERAL STATISTICS 1953

Home population, mid-year (Registrar-General's estimated figure)	157,200
Area (in acres)	14,353
Number of inhabited houses 31st December (rate books) ..	45,121
Rateable value	£2,111,390
Sum represented by a penny rate	£8,470

Marriages, 1,368. Rate per 1,000 population, 870

Live births :	Males	Females	Total	Birth rate per 1,000 population	Adjusted birth rate
Legitimate	940	934	1874		
Illegitimate	92	75	167		
	1032	1009	2041	12.98	13.24

Area comparability factor (births) .. 1.02

					Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	Rate per 1,000 population
Still births .. .. .	..	..	..	42	20	0.27

					Crude rate per 1,000 population	Adjusted rate
Deaths .. .. .	..	..	..	2,359	15.01	12.00

Area comparability factor (deaths) .. .80

Childbirth deaths :				Rate per 1,000 adjusted (live and still) births
Puerperal infections .. ..	..	..	—
Others .. .. .	..	..	3	
			3	1.4

Deaths of infants under 1 year :				Rate per 1,000 adjusted live births
Legitimate .. .. .	..	..	44	23
Illegitimate .. .. .	..	..	6	36
			50	24

Deaths from cancer (all ages) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	406
„ „ measles (all ages) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—
„ „ whooping cough (all ages) ..	..	..	..	..	1
„ „ diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ..	..	..	..	..	3
„ „ diphtheria (all ages) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—

Diseases Notified during the Year 1953

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	At all ages	Age Incidence						No. of deaths during the year	No. Removed to Isolation Hospital	
		Under 1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25			25+
Scarlet fever ...	161	—	9	36	95	15	5	1	49	—
Whooping cough ...	531	62	129	125	203	6	2	4	7	1
Ac. poliomyelitis: paralytic ...	7	—	1	—	1	3	—	2	6	—
non-paralytic ...	9	—	1	—	1	4	1	2	9	—
Measles ...	2,041	49	376	578	969	33	13	23	7	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia ...	45	—	—	—	—	—	15	30	2	—
			0-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65+			
Smallpox ...	—		—	—	—	—	—		—	—
Ac. pneumonia ...	129		24	15	28	35	27		—	—
Dysentery ...	58		18	28	10	1	1		14	—
Ac. encephalitis ...	1		—	—	1	—	—		—	—
Enteric or typhoid fever	1		—	—	—	—	1		—	—
Paratyphoid fevers ...	4		2	—	2	—	—		—	—
Erysipelas ...	30		—	2	9	13	6		3	—
Meningococcal infection	4		3	—	—	1	—		5	—
Malaria ...	1		—	—	—	—	—		2	—
Food poisoning ...	95		13	—	36	20	—		—	—
Tuberculosis ...	(see page 17)			18			8		2	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY

Acute Poliomyelitis

There were 15 confirmed cases in Brighton residents—a decrease of 5 from the previous year.

6 patients developed the paralytic form of the disease and the other 9 cases had no paralysis. All patients were removed to Foredown Isolation Hospital. There were no deaths.

Each case was investigated but no primary sources of infection were found to be in common and it was not necessary to introduce any general epidemic control measures.

Diphtheria

No cases came to the notice of the department during the year.

Scarlet Fever

Of a total of 161 cases notified during the year, 49 patients were removed to hospital. There were no major outbreaks in schools and no deaths.

Measles

2,041 cases were notified by doctors, an increase of 1,480 over the previous year. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough

531 cases were notified by doctors, an increase of 371 over the previous year. There was 1 death of a girl aged 11 months. This girl was not protected against whooping cough by immunization.

Erysipelas

30 cases were notified with no deaths.

Acute Pneumonia (Primary or Influenzal)

129 cases were notified with no deaths.

Smallpox

No cases were notified during the year. 5 contacts of suspected cases occurring in ships arriving at various ports in this country were kept under surveillance for the required period. No disease developed.

Dysentery

During the year 58 cases of dysentery were notified. Of these, 7 cases of *Shigella Sonne* infection occurred in the children's ward of a local hospital. The outbreak was brought quickly under control with the willing co-operation of the hospital medical staff.

Typhoid

In September a typhoid carrier was notified when he was a patient for a chest complaint in a local hospital. He was an elderly man who had spent most of his life in India and had had an attack of enteric fever at the age of 25 years, evidently being a carrier since this episode. He was isolated in the hospital: he died later of his chest ailment. This person had resided in Brighton as a carrier for some years without the knowledge of this department. He did not know he was a carrier and no symptoms caused him to report the matter to his doctor.

This case proves the necessity of following all cases of typhoid, paratyphoid, and salmonella infection until they are cleared or at their final state. If they are chronic or intermittent carriers they are known in the community to the health department, and can be taught methods of absolute hand hygiene, thereby being little danger to their families or the community.

Paratyphoid

In September a minor outbreak of paratyphoid occurred. It was confined to one particular home in which two families were residing. 4 persons, including a new-born baby, were taken ill and 3 others were found to be symptomless excretors of *S. Paratyphi B*. The source of the infection was not discovered.

No other cases were notified during the year.

Food Poisoning

During the year there were two threats of major outbreaks of food poisoning involving a total of 16 persons and 1 minor outbreak occurred involving 3 persons.

By prompt and rigorous measures in co-operation with general practitioners and Dr. Jameson, the Director of the Public Health Laboratory in Brighton, the situation in each case was rapidly brought under control.

The first outbreak was in an hotel of 40 guests and infection spread throughout the catering staff—only 1 guest was taken ill.

The causative organism was *Salmonella Typhi Murium*. Investigation shewed that two of the non-catering staff in the hotel were excreting this organism without shewing symptoms and they had been assisting the kitchen staff during the rush period—in all probability infection took place during this period.

The second outbreak was associated with cooked meat sold by a local business having an extensive family and visitor trade. *Salmonella Typhi Murium* was again the causative organism and investigations shewed that the meat became contaminated through the handling of this product prior to sale to the public—12 persons were taken ill and all recovered after a few days.

The minor outbreak was again associated with an hotel and 3 members of the administrative staff were taken ill after eating the remains of a steak and kidney pie which had been served to the guests on the previous day. Heat-resistant strains of *Clostridium Welchii* were found to be the cause. The practice of serving cooked meat dishes which have been allowed to cool slowly overnight and subsequent re-heating on the following day gives optimum conditions for the production of toxins.

In addition to the above, 76 isolated cases of food poisoning or gastro-enteritis were investigated. *Salmonella Typhi Murium* was found to be the cause of the illness in 25 cases. Cooked meats, meat products, cream fillings, and duck eggs were considered to be the incriminated foodstuffs.

Salmonella Maliagridis, *Seftenberg* and *Enteriditis* were isolated in stools from 3 individual patients. In the remainder of cases no organisms were identified and it was not possible to trace the food concerned.

It is usual when investigating food poisoning to find no samples of implicated food retained, partly due to the habit of discarding undesirable food and partly due to the late notification of the patients to their general practitioners and thence the awareness of this department. There is still a great tendency to attribute several cases of illness after consumption of food to "chills", "gastritis", or other vague abdominal terms without thinking of the possibility of food poisoning.

Winter Vomiting Disease

An outbreak of 10 cases occurred in a residential school.

Venereal Disease

New local cases treated at the Brighton V.D. Treatment Centre during 1953 were as follows :

Syphilis		Gonorrhoea		Syphilis and Gonorrhoea		Conditions other than V.D.		Total of V.D. cases	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
5	12	38	15	—	1	200	83	43	28

Verminous Cases

Cleansing of 18 verminous cases was arranged by the Welfare Services Department, and 399 verminous children were cleansed at the School Clinic Annexe.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination

Record cards were received for 561 persons ; of these, 434 were for primary vaccinations and 127 for re-vaccinations.

Immunisation

	Number of children immunised		
	Under 5 years	5-15 years	Total
By Council's medical officers ...	... 636	215	851
By general medical practitioners ...	... 602	29	631
	1238	244	1482

In addition, during the year 78 children received one injection but did not complete the course. Reinforcing doses were given to 221 children under the age of 5 years and to 1,270 children between the ages of 5 and 15 years.

The parents of all children are circularized when the child is eight months old. The Health Visitors visit those cases not immunised (1) when about 11 months old, and (2) between the ages of 13 and 15 months.

Children are immunised at the ten Infant Welfare Centres and, in addition, a session for school children is held once a week at the School Clinic.

The Council have adopted a scheme for a combined whooping-cough diphtheria immunisation.

DOMESTIC HELP SCHEME

Applicants are assessed as to contributions towards cost on a fixed scale, and acute cases normally receive priority over chronic cases. 162 of the cases helped were invalid old-age pensioners from whom no contributions were required. Those found ineligible to receive the services of a helper either had relatives, or other persons available, or no medical reasons for help existed.

Helpers (employed on hourly basis) at end of year	..	33
Hours worked by helpers .. ..	..	41,010
Applications for assistance received .. ..	..	1,411
Maternity cases given help .. ..	..	244
Acute sickness cases given help .. ..	..	209
Chronic sickness cases given help .. ..	..	30
Old age pensioners (not included above) given help ..	..	162
Tuberculosis cases given help .. ..	..	1

Total number of cases dealt with 646

(Included in the above figures are 45 cases brought forward from 1952.)

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

AGED PERSONS

One application was submitted to the Magistrates for action under Section 47 (3) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, and this was granted for a period of three weeks.

This woman, aged 91, suffering from grave chronic disease, was removed to the Brighton General Hospital, where she died three days later.

INCIDENCE OF BLINDNESS

The Council have decided that the Welfare Services Department should administer the duties for the welfare of the blind in accordance with the provisions of the National Assistance Act 1948.

A. Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons

	CAUSE OF DISABILITY			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7 (c) of Forms B.D.8 recommends :				
(a) No treatment	19	8	1	23
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical) ...	4	3	—	9
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	2	2	—	9

The figures given relate to the main causes of blindness given on forms B.D.8, but in

(a) cataract is given as a secondary cause in 10 cases and “others” in 6 cases, and in

(b) cataract secondary in 2 cases, glaucoma in 2 cases and “others” 3.

There was one case of retrolental fibroplasia in a prematurely born infant.

One woman, blinded by glaucoma, had received no previous treatment for the condition.

Of the 16 persons for whom treatment was recommended, all were patients at the Sussex Eye Hospital before certification and registration. Thirteen continued to attend as instructed—2 having in-patient treatment and 2 optical treatment only. Two are awaiting operations for cataract and 1 was referred to his own doctor.

Number of forms B.D.8 received — 67.

B. Ophthalmia neonatorum

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	2
(ii) Number of cases in which :	
(a) Vision lost	—
(b) Vision impaired	—
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year ...	—

EPILEPTICS AND SPASTICS

The Council have approved a scheme for the welfare of handicapped persons, including epileptics and spastics, to come into operation on 1st April, 1954. At the present time there is no comprehensive information concerning epileptics and spastics in the area.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

The total number of live births registered was 2,041, of which 1,032 were males and 1,009 females. Included in the total are 167 illegitimate births. The birth rate was 12.98 per 1,000 of population.

There were 3 maternal deaths during the year.

The infant mortality rate was 24 ; the actual number of deaths being 50.

MIDWIFERY

Hospitals and Nursing Homes	Number of Midwives Practising	Number of beds	Number of cases from Brighton		Total number of cases		Number of cases in which analgesia administered
			Doctor present	Doctor not present	Doctor present	Doctor not present	
Brighton General	21	64	111	868	148	1033	
Sussex Maternity	22	62	77	428	137	849	
Nursing Homes ...	1	5	22	—	22	—	
TOTAL ...	44	131	210	1296	307	1882	
Domiciliary							
Sussex Mat. Hosp.							
District Midwives	8		15	241			221
Municipal Midwives	3		45	175			209
Brighton District Nursing Association ...	3		15	29			25
Private Midwives	2		—	—			—
TOTAL ...	16		75	445			455

Eighteen pupils completed their district training in Brighton as part of a Part II midwifery course.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics

		Number of Brighton cases attended			
		Ante-natal	Attendances	Post-natal	Attendances
Brighton General Hospital	...	1025	9768	805	805
Sussex Maternity Hospital	...	739	6978	603	784
Municipal Clinic, Sussex Street	...	316	1399	66	67

Ante-natal relaxation and post-natal exercises are taught in all the clinics.

Midwives Acts

Under the Rules of the Central Midwives Board, 74 midwives notified their intention to practise within the Borough.

Medical Aid and other notifications

Number of domiciliary cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year by a midwife, 132.

Other notifications from midwives (i.e. proposal to substitute artificial for breast feeding, stillbirth, liability to be source of infection, having laid out a dead body) 152.

PREMATURE INFANTS

Arrangements are in force whereby the weights of all children born are entered on the notification of birth cards. Where the weight is $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or under, special visits are made and, where necessary, premature babies can be admitted to the Maternity wing of the Brighton General Hospital.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

2 cases were notified, one treated at home, and one treated at hospital ; both recovered.

THE PUERPERAL PYREXIA REGULATIONS 1951

The 45 cases notified all recovered.

CONTRACEPTIVE AND FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC

New cases treated during year belonging to Brighton were referred by

Tuberculosis Officer	...	...	7
General Medical Practitioners	...	...	57
Brighton General Hospital	...	...	10
Sussex Maternity Hospital	...	...	1
Maternity and Infant Welfare M.O.	...	...	11
New Sussex Hospital	...	...	1
TOTAL			87

Total number of attendances of all Brighton cases during the year, 434. In addition, attendances were made by 14 new cases belonging to districts outside Brighton. The total number of attendances of all cases belonging to districts outside Brighton was 68.

CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND THEIR BABIES

The Council contributes to the funds of the Chichester Diocesan Moral Welfare Association and in addition contributes to the maintenance of Brighton women and their babies for the necessary duration of their stay in Homes. The Association also provides the services of Social Workers.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

There were ten infant welfare centres at the end of the year—an increase of one over the previous year—and eleven sessions were held at these centres each week.

Analysis of gross attendances :

	Number	Attendances	Average Attendance	
			per Person	per Session
Mothers	2,005	22,273	11	43
Children { 0-12 months	1,567	19,521	12	} 49
{ 1-5 years ...	1,739	5,376	3	

Number of medical consultations given totalled 6,202.

500 children were treated, or referred for treatment or for consultation.

ORTHOPAEDIC SERVICE

Of the 443 children under 5 treated at the Orthopaedic Clinic during the year, 51 were new cases seen by the Surgeon. 154 attendances were made to the Surgeon's Clinic. 7 children were admitted to the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore.

HOME VISITING

Home Visits included routine calls on :

Expectant Mothers : first visits	...	...	477
total visits	...	...	572
Babies under 1 year of age : first visits	...	...	2,324
total visits	...	...	11,763
average to each child	...	...	5
Children over 1 year old : children visited	...	...	6,415
total visits	...	...	16,016

Visits of enquiry were made as follows :

Stillbirths	...	...	...	38
Neonatal deaths (i.e. during first month)	...	...	...	36
Hospital follow-up visits	...	...	...	190
Housing Problems	...	...	...	118
Aged and chronic sick	...	...	...	108
Other visits	...	...	...	990
Total of all visits paid by Health Visitors				
during the year	...	...	...	29,831

A Superintendent Health Visitor was appointed in August ; the total establishment of Health Visitors is 17 (including the Superintendent, 2 student Health Visitors, 2 Health Visitors wholly on tuberculosis work, and 1 who devotes half her time to tuberculosis work).

PROMOTION OF CLEANLINESS

The Health Visitors note the condition of heads and bodies of all pre-school children. Where necessary advice is given and severe cases of verminous infestation are referred to the School Clinic Annexe. Close co-operation is maintained with the School Health Service and with the Children's Officer.

DENTAL CARE

One session per week was reserved by the Principal School Dental Officer and by each of the four School Dental Officers. A total of 111 sessions was devoted to the inspection and treatment of mothers and children under five at the four dental clinics.

X-rays are carried out at the School Clinic.

By arrangement, a private dental technician supplies dentures as required and the necessary work is carried out in his workshop.

(a) Numbers provided with dental care :

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing mothers ...	63	62	62	50
Children under five ...	304	101	101	101

(b) Forms of dental treatment provided :

	Extractions	Anaesthetics		Fillings	Scalings or Scaling and gum treatment	Silver Nitrate treatment	Dressings	Radio-graphs	Dentures provided	
		Local	General						Complete	Partial
Expectant and Nursing mothers	88	53	35	113	304	—	36	15	6	6
Children under five ...	73	20	53	177	44	46	40	—	—	—

DEPRIVED CHILDREN

Close co-operation is maintained with the Children's Officer who notifies the Health Department whenever a deprived child under five is moved to a new address. This enables the Health Visitor to pay routine visits as required for all children of this age group.

Under existing arrangements, visits were paid jointly by the Children's Officer and Dr. Morrison to establishments where the wellbeing of deprived children was in doubt. Special examinations of children were made at the request of the Children's Officer.

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948

There are on the register 4 Child Minders who for reward received into their premises 41 children under the age of 5 years to be looked after for the day. No new Child Minders were approved.

Four day nurseries are on the register ; there was one new registration during the year.

Dr. Morrison paid 6 visits of inspection.

MUNICIPAL DAY NURSERY

The Brighton Council maintains the Manor House Day Nursery, where there is accommodation for 12 children from 9 months to 2 years of age and 24 from 2 to 5 years ; during the year the average daily attendance was 19.

Prior to admission the children must be seen by a doctor to ensure they are free from infection and infestation. For this purpose 44 were seen at the infant welfare centres.

EDUCATION

Twenty pupil midwives attended infant welfare centres on 5 occasions each.

Nineteen students studying for the Health Visitors' Certificate attended the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics for practical experience in the work of a health visitor.

Arrangements were made for all students to visit the Ambulance Station, Abattoir, Buckingham House Children's Home, School Clinic, Garton House Diocesan Moral Welfare Home, Chest Clinic, Mental Health Services, Manor House Day Nursery, and the Sanitary Inspectors' office.

NURSING HOMES

The number of nursing homes on the register on 31st December, 1953, was as follows: Maternity Homes nil, other Homes 17, combined Maternity and other Homes 3.

All the occupied homes were visited during the year. The 20 on the register contained 7 beds for maternity cases and 246 beds for other cases.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1953—*Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under One Year of Age*

15

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 Week		1-2 Weeks		2-3 Weeks		3-4 Weeks		Total under 4 Weeks		1-2 Months		2-3 Months		3-4 Months		4-5 Months		5-6 Months		6-7 Months		7-8 Months		8-9 Months		9-10 Months		10-11 Months		11-12 Months		Total Deaths under one Year
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			
Whooping Cough	1	
Meningitis	1	
Pneumonia	1	
Bronchitis	1	
Gastro-enteritis and colitis except ulcerative	3	
Congenital malformations	14	
Birth injuries, post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis	8	
Pneumonia of new-born	3	
Pemphigus neonatorum	14
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy and immaturity unqualified	8
Diseases of adrenal glands	3
Lack of care at birth	1
TOTALS	18	15	3	2	...	...	1	...	22	17	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	50

HOME NURSING

The statutory duty of the Local Health Authority is carried out by the Brighton District Nursing Association (Queens Nurses).

There were 33 whole-time and 3 part-time home nurses.

Total number of cases nursed, 5,194.

Total number of visits made, 116,425 (including 1,732 midwifery and maternity).

282 patients received nursing equipment on loan.

Seventeen students were trained during the year, of whom 10 were for the Brighton area.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Following a trial period with radio telephony the Council agreed to the installation of 14 receiver-transmitter sets in the ambulances and sitting-case cars—6 in the ambulances and 8 in the cars with fitments in the rest of the fleet to allow for the transfer of sets as necessary. The main station is on one of the highest parts of the Borough and is connected by landline to the Ambulance Headquarters $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile away. An effective range of 15 miles is obtained.

The cost of the installation has been offset by the reduction of the fleet by one ambulance, and by three drivers; to this saving may be added a reduction in costs owing to a lower mileage—a total of 281,466 with 58,441 patients, compared with 299,637 with 54,235 patients in 1952.

We have not yet had the experience of a full year's service with radio telephony, but it is apparent that in addition to the saving it has been possible to increase efficiency by the provision of a more rapid service.

At the end of the year there were 11 ambulances and 9 cars (including 6 utilicons). The staff comprised a Supervisor, Deputy Supervisor, 5 Section Leaders, 25 Driver/attendants, 7 Women drivers, and 4 Clerk/Telephonists.

					<i>Ambulances</i>	<i>Sitting-Case Cars</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mileage	...	...	...	...	111,030	170,436	281,466
Patients conveyed :							
Accident and emergency	...	...	...	...	2,181	403	2,584
Others	...	...	...	...	14,919	40,938	55,857
Deceased persons and non-patients conveyed					78	74	152
Journeys :							
Patient carrying	...	...	...	...	8,081	7,631	15,712
Abortive and service, etc.	...	...	...	...	487	873	1,360

Arrangements were made for the conveyance of 296 patients by rail, an average of 88 miles per patient, thus ensuring a swift and comfortable journey for the patient and at the same time effecting a considerable saving in costs.

In addition the Hospital Car Service was requested to carry 75 patients; the number of journeys was 55 and the mileage 845; there were 17 drivers on the register.

The average mileage per patient carried was : (a) Ambulances, 6 ; (b) Sitting-Case Cars, 4 ; (c) Hospital Car Service, 11.

PREVENTION, CARE AND AFTER-CARE—TUBERCULOSIS

			<i>Deaths</i> 1953	<i>Rate per</i> 100,000	<i>No. of</i> <i>New Cases</i> 1953	<i>Rate per</i> 100,000
Pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	41	26.08	208	132.32
Non-pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	1	0.64	10	6.36
All forms	...	...	42	26.72	218	138.68

The following table gives the number of primary notifications and other new cases which came to notice otherwise than by formal notification ; also deaths from all forms of the disease.

Age Periods.					New Cases				Deaths			
					Pulmonary		Other		Pulmonary		Other	
					M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- 1	...	...	...	...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 4	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	—	—	—	1	—
5- 9	...	...	...	...	3	3	2	—	—	—	—	—
10-14	...	...	...	...	10	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-19	...	...	...	...	20	11	1	1	—	—	—	—
20-24	...	...	...	...	13	15	1	—	2	—	—	—
25-34	...	...	...	...	20	14	—	1	1	2	—	—
35-44	...	...	...	...	17	14	1	2	1	3	—	—
45-54	...	...	...	...	19	5	—	—	3	4	—	—
55-64	...	...	...	...	16	5	—	—	10	1	—	—
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	10	2	—	—	10	4	—	—
Totals	...	...	...	...	130	78	6	4	27	14	1	—

Nineteen of the total of 42 deaths occurred in hospital, of whom 12 died in Brighton hospitals and 7 in other hospitals.

9,622 persons were examined at the Clinic during the year, of which 2,028 were new attendances.

158 patients were visited in their own homes during the year.

7,326 artificial pneumothorax refills were done during the year.

Although some cases are found to have advanced disease on first examination, on the whole patients tend to present themselves for examination and treatment at an earlier stage than a few years ago.

655 new contacts to cases of tuberculosis were examined during the year ; of these, 2 were found to need institutional treatment on first examination. It is necessary to keep contacts under observation for several years.

499 school children of all ages were examined during the year in the schools by means of X-ray and skin test. Of these, 67 were found to have positive skin tests, but none was found to be in need of treatment.

The Ministry of Health directs that B.C.G. Vaccination should be offered to tuberculin-negative contacts of cases. A total of 127 vaccinations were made during the year. B.C.G. Vaccination has been readily taken up by the public and many requests for its use are made.

The Mass Radiography Unit operated for several months during the year. Many cases have been referred to the Chest Clinic from the Unit. This service is of great value as, apart from the cases found to be in actual need of treatment, it brings to light hidden sources of infection which would otherwise remain unknown.

Many cases and their families have been rehoused during the year, and great assistance has been rendered by the Housing Committee, under difficult conditions.

Home Visits by Health Visitors :

Primary visits	...	...	246
Re-visits	...	...	1,899
Special visits	...	...	601
Total : 2,746			

Home Nursing by Queen's Nurses of the Brighton District Nursing Association :

			<i>No. of Patients</i>	<i>No. of Visits</i>
Pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	231	6,257
Non-pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	8	285
TOTAL			239	6,542

Assistance from Hedgcock Bequest :

				£	s.	d.
Milk	...	...	...	469	10	6
Assistance towards cost of daily minder for children	...	...	...	4	0	0
Maintenance in orphanage	...	...	...	104	5	7
Assistance towards cost of laundering clothing	...	...	...	1	12	0
Assistance towards arrears of gas account	...	...	...	4	15	6
Assistance towards cost of furniture	...	...	...	22	15	2
Assistance towards cost of clothing	...	...	...	30	19	5
Assistance towards cost of removals	...	...	...	3	0	0
Purchase of bed-pan	...	...	...	1	10	0
Purchase of back-rest	...	...	...	1	9	6
				£643	17	8

A period of convalescence, usually two weeks, was agreed for 23 non-tuberculous cases, and they were sent to Homes in Sussex, Surrey, Essex, and Kent.

In addition we have accepted responsibility for the maintenance of one tuberculous case at Papworth Village Settlement, and 25 other tuberculous cases were assisted in the home.

Assistance towards the cost of rail fares to visit relatives in hospital was granted to 32 new cases ; altogether 38 cases were helped. Nearly all the patients are tuberculous cases.

The Health Committee agreed to the establishment of a class for the demonstration of various crafts to tuberculous patients, and arrangements have been made for this to commence in 1954.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

ADMINISTRATION

Health Services Sub-Committee

The Sub-Committee consists of 13 members, being His Worship the Mayor (*ex-officio*), the Chairman of the Health Committee, together with 9 other members of the Council and 2 co-opted members, including a local general practitioner. Meetings are held at monthly intervals.

Number and qualifications of Staff

Psychiatric Advisor : Dr. W. McCartan, M.D. (Belf.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H., D.P.M., Physician Superintendent, St. Francis Hospital, Haywards Heath ; Executive Officer ; 3 Authorised Officers ; 1 Mental Deficiency Visitor (Female) and 2 Clerical Assistants. Of such Officers, two hold the Relieving Officer's Certificate.

Co-ordination of Services

The co-ordination of services between the Mental Hospital, Mental Deficiency Institutions, and the local health authority is utilized to the fullest extent. The Psychiatric Social Worker of the Mental Hospital attends the Clinic attached to the Mental Health office at regular intervals. The duties of visitation of patients on licence from Mental Deficiency Institutions is carried out, and, as and where requested, assistance is provided in the supervision of patients on trial from Mental Hospitals.

Delegation of Duties

With the exception of the administration of the Occupation Centres for mental defectives and the Domiciliary Handicraft Care for the mentally handicapped, the whole of the work required of local health authorities in the mental health field is performed by the authority's own officers.

Training of Mental Health Workers

Arrangements have been made for the duly authorised officers to attend refresher courses and full co-operation will be given to any scheme required by the Minister.

WORK UNDERTAKEN IN THE COMMUNITY

Prevention, Care and After-Care

The Mental Health Service operates from the Herbert Hone Clinic, which incorporates in addition to the administrative offices the Child Guidance Clinic, Adult Psycho-Therapy and Follow-up Clinics, also the Psychiatric Advisor holds special Clinics for Adult Delinquency, Preventive Care and After-Care, including cases referred by the Ministry of Labour, the National Assistance Board, and Probation Officers.

A weekly Out-Patients Clinic is held by the Physician Superintendent of St. Francis Hospital, at the Brighton General Hospital, by arrangement with the Brighton and Lewes Hospital Management Committee ; at such Clinic, cases of neurosis and psychosis are seen ; also this type of case is seen at the Herbert Hone Clinic when it is deemed more advisable in the interest of the patient for the interview to be held other than at a hospital.

A Follow-up Clinic was held weekly at the Herbert Hone Clinic, the Psychiatrist for such being provided from the staff of St. Francis Hospital.

After-care services are provided for cases of neurosis and psychosis discharged from H.M. Forces.

Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts 1890-1930

The total number of cases dealt with under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts was 949 ; of such total, 555 cases were admitted to the Observation Ward at Brighton General Hospital under Section 20 of the Lunacy Act, 1890.

During the twelve months under review, the admissions to Mental Hospitals, either direct from their homes or after a period of observation, were :

Voluntary Patients	...	...	420
Temporary Patients	...	...	13
Certified Patients	...	...	114
			—
TOTAL	...		547
			—

Of the total admissions to the Observation Ward, 204 cases were admitted by the Duly Authorised Officers of the East Sussex local health authority, but the disposal of such cases is by agreement performed by the Brighton Duly Authorised Officers.

The Duly Authorised Officers, in addition to their statutory duties, also undertake the visitation of mental defectives (Males) under guardianship in situations, the removal of all male patients to institutions, and are also Petitions Officers under the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913.

Until the services of a full-time Psychiatric Social Worker are secured, social histories, visits of a preventive nature, and after-care, are performed.

General

The administrative staff interviewed 2,922 persons at the Clinic and interviewed at home, etc., 2,776. Included in such figures is the visitation of mental defectives under supervision, guardianship, on licence from institutions and visits for Special Reports for the Visiting Justices, etc. ; also included are the visits for preventive and after-care purposes under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.

During the twelve months, Duly Authorised Officers received 146 calls to cases after normal office hours, from local practitioners, the Police, and hospitals.

Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938

Close co-operation is maintained with local medical practitioners, hospitals, etc., to assist wherein cases of sub-normal young children are found. One of the Certifying Medical Officers—the Deputy Principal School Medical Officer or the Senior School Medical Officer—is immediately notified of such cases for examination and report.

During the year 32 cases were ascertained : of these 27 were notified by the Education Authority under Section 57 of the Education Act, 1944, and the remaining 5 from various other sources. Of such cases 5 were admitted to Certified Institutions, 16 dealt with by supervision in their own homes, 2 moved from Brighton prior to action being taken, and 9 were still pending action being taken.

Cases on Register

The number of cases at the 31st December was 482, an increase of 9 cases on the previous year ; the cases were dealt with as set out hereunder :

In Institutions ...	...	206 (140 males, 66 females)
Under Guardianship ...	...	42 (18 ,, 24 ,,)
„ Supervision ...	...	225 (130 ,, 95 ,,)
Awaiting Action ...	...	9 (5 ,, 4 ,,)

Institutional Waiting List

The number of cases awaiting admission to Institutions was 23, compared with 19 at the beginning of the year ; such number was made up as follows :

Children ...	...	13 (8 males, 5 females)
Adults ...	...	10 (6 ,, 4 ,,)

the classification of such cases is: Cot and Chair 10 (7 children, 3 adults), Ambulant Low Grade 7 (5 children, 2 adults), Medium Grade 4 (1 child, 3 adults), High Grade 2 (both adults).

Difficulty is still experienced in obtaining beds for defectives and the shortage of beds for low grade cases, especially children, is still acute. Only 7 beds for new cases were obtained during the year. Of the 13 children on the waiting list, 7 cases have been awaiting vacancies for over four years.

Guardianship and Supervision

Regular visitation is made to all cases under guardianship and under supervision at home. As the National Assistance Board now make any necessary grant to mental defectives who whilst residing at home need financial assistance, it is not now necessary to deal with such cases by guardianship orders.

Occupation and Training for Mental Defectives

Suitable cases attend the Occupation Centre maintained by the Guardianship Society at the Grace Eyre Woodhead Memorial, Old Shoreham Road, Hove.

The Junior Centre is full time and the children are provided with meals and milk. A special bus is used to convey the children to and from the Centre. The Senior Centres are on a part-time basis.

The number of cases attending the Centres was 22 children and 11 adults, an increase of four cases. Other cases were given a trial during the year but were found unsuitable for retention at the Centre.

BRIGHTON CORPORATION WATERWORKS

Mr. F. N. Green, Waterworks Engineer

1. The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quantity, and apart from sporadic pollution of the Falmer and Patcham wells, in quality

2. Bacteriological examinations of both raw and treated waters were made at weekly intervals in the Department's laboratory, except in certain instances where bacterial pollution was present in the raw waters, when samples of both raw and chloraminated waters were examined daily. The total number of raw and treated water samples examined from each of the Pumping Stations, together with a summary of the bacteriological results obtained, is given below :

No. of Samples Examined	No. showing presence of Coliform Organisms in 100 ml. or less	No. showing presence of Faecal Coli in 100 ml. or less	No. showing Presumptive Test negative in 100 ml.
1,247	296	178	951

Colony counts on Agar at 22° and 37°C. on the raw waters showed some variation throughout the year but were, with the exception of Falmer and Patcham, mainly of a low order. The 63 samples of chloraminated water from Falmer Pumping Station showing bacterial pollution did not at any time indicate inefficient sterilisation of the raw water. The organisms isolated indicated that they had their origin in the gland packing material used in the force pumps and were quickly eliminated by the residual monochloramine present in the water. Their survival and subsequent isolation in the laboratory was due to the neutralisation of the chloramine by sodium thiosulphate at the time of sampling. The two instances of Coliform Organisms being present in the chloraminated water at Balsdean were due to faulty sampling technique since none of these organisms were present in the raw water at that time. Those present in the chlorinated water at Patcham were due to lack of contact time between chlorine application and the sampling point and indicated the necessity of fixing a new position for the latter. Since this has been done, there have been no further contaminated samples.

General chemical analyses of the raw waters have been carried out at intervals, and abbreviated chemical analyses have been made on the majority of the weekly samples throughout the year. The results of chemical analyses are given below, expressed in parts per million :

	Balsdean	Falmer	Patcham	Goldstone	Mile Oak	Shoreham
Date taken	9.6.53	9.6.53	9.6.53	8.6.53	8.6.53	10.6.53
Colour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Turbidity	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear
Taste	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Odour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
pH	7.4	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.3
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	174.5	193.5	168.5	191.5	168.5	183.0
Chloride (Cl)	34.0	25.5	21.5	30.0	24.5	29.0
Free Ammonia (N)	0.004	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.005
Alb. Ammonia (N.)	0.020	0.006	0.022	0.016	0.016	0.014
Oxidised Nitrogen (N)	6.0	5.10	3.6	7.6	5.4	6.7
Oxygen Absorbed	0.10	0.10	0.09	0.12	0.16	0.14
Nitrite Nitrogen (N)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Temp. Hardness	174.5	193.5	168.5	191.5	168.5	183.0
Perm. Hardness	40.2	38.5	32.0	51.5	37.5	46.0
Total Hardness	214.7	232.0	200.5	243.0	206.0	229.0

In addition to the foregoing, 1,659 daily samples from taps at fixed points on the district have been examined bacteriologically, the results of which have shown the chloraminated water going to supply to be of the highest standard of purity.

Bacteriological examinations have also been carried out on 414 samples of water from the various service reservoirs.

A total of 3,436 samples have been examined in the Department's laboratory during the year.

3. Since all the water is obtained from the chalk, there is little likelihood of any plumbo-solvent action, and no evidence of such action is apparent.

4. Chlorination with post-ammoniation of all raw waters is practised continuously, and regular surveys of the catchment area are carried out. In the event of a raw water showing evidence of bacterial pollution, such surveys are intensified and appropriate adjustments of chlorine and ammonia dosage are made. In addition, bacteriological examination of the raw and chlorinated water is carried out at daily intervals.

5. The particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the population supplied from public water mains (a) direct to the houses and (b) by means of standpipes are given below :

Town	Supply		Population
	(a) Direct	(b) Standpipe	
Brighton County Borough	44,033	Nil	158,240

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Progress has been well maintained during the year in all aspects of the work of the Department, but the number of visits made by the inspectors is not as high as during 1952. In the preceding Annual Report I commented that figures for total number of visits did not in themselves give a true indication of the work carried out. I am satisfied that with a less number of visits there has been much more solid progress in many directions than in previous years. An increasing number of improvements have been carried out to premises and much more effective educational propaganda has been possible. It is noticeable that the general public are becoming more health conscious and tentative attempts to secure improvements in food hygiene are making their appearance. It is to be expected when the legislative amendments to the Food & Drugs Act become operative that the present tentative demands will gather impetus.

Comments are made in the report in regard to the quality of milk supplies and upon an anomaly in respect of the sale of cream. Investigation of the milk supply is not complete as no worthwhile conclusions could be drawn from the fact that a farm supply failed the Methylene Blue test on one sample taken during the warmest months of the year. It was, therefore decided to take further samples during the winter months and again in the spring of 1954. Whilst complete results are not yet available, the indications are that the keeping quality of the milk on delivery to the dairies is far from satisfactory. The Methylene Blue test was applied to all supplies and whilst ordinary milk is not legally required to pass such a test, it is felt that the standard required is sufficiently low to enable all milk produced under reasonable conditions of cleanliness to attain this standard. The large number of failures of tuberculin tested milk did cause some surprise.

The notes on page 30 under the heading of "Cream" draw attention to an anomaly under the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order 1953. Whilst all milk sold in this area has to be pasteurised unless it is a designated milk, the sale of unpasteurised cream is allowed. One would expect more risk of danger from the consumption of unpasteurised cream than from milk, and so long as cream is not included in the definition of milk under the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order 1953, such cream can be sold.

During the year four Sanitary Inspectors left the Department, and because of the inevitable delay between one person leaving and another being appointed and taking up his duties, the administration of the Department suffered to some extent. Four inspectors represents 25% of the staff and replacements were very difficult to obtain. This trend will get progressively worse. The report of the Working Party on the Recruitment, Training and Qualifications of Sanitary Inspectors was issued during the year and unless very early consideration is given to their findings, there will be few entrants to the profession during the next few years. It would appear that a system of paid pupilage, in areas where all necessary training facilities are available, is required. This may prove to be the main channel of recruitment to the profession, and arrangements to finance such a training scheme, on similar lines to that operating for midwives, should be explored with appropriate Government Departments.

In August last complaints were made of large numbers of flies on certain parts of the sea front. By September the flies affected the whole of the coastal area of the town and were in such numbers as to constitute a plague. Very little was known about these particular flies and no factual information of their life cycle and habits was available. Because of the extent of the

infestation, experimental work was carried out on the beaches with various insecticides and methods of application. Also extensive observations on the habits of the flies were made. Commercial firms co-operated to the full and the tests and demonstrations culminated in a visit by the Right Honourable Harold Macmillan, Minister of Housing and Local Government. As a result of the experiments, a form of treatment of the beaches was evolved and decisions made in regard to the insecticides to be used. This work was carried out over a period of four months and naturally interfered with the normal routine of the Department.

I should like to express my thanks to the Specialist and District Sanitary Inspectors in the Department for their efforts and co-operation during the year. Whilst the routine work of the Department is their particular concern I have found them to be a willing and enthusiastic team willing to undertake the extraordinary duties that have been found so necessary during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION

In the following tables the work of the Sanitary Inspectors is stated, as far as possible, in tabular form :

Inspections for 1953

Nature of Inspections

Houses under the Public Health Act	...	...	9,297
Houses under the Housing Acts	...	...	2,381
Section 60 P.H.A. 1936 (fire escapes)	...	...	91
Abattoir for meat inspection (full days)	...	...	106
Animals, accumulations, etc.	...	...	236
Offensive trades	...	...	24
Drainage	...	...	918
Noise nuisance	...	...	40
Premises other than houses	...	...	385
Infectious disease investigations	...	...	2,092
Rodent Control	...	...	20
Verminous premises	...	...	241
Schools	...	...	45
Nursing homes	...	...	23
Smoke abatement	...	...	86
Tents, vans, sheds	...	...	48
Swimming baths	...	...	96
Water supply	...	...	64
Workplaces	...	...	125
Sampling	...	...	6,061
Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926	...	...	29
Merchandise Marks Act, 1926	...	...	285
National Assistance Act, 1948	...	...	128
Pet Animals Act, 1951	...	...	99
Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933	...	...	233
Rag Flock Act, 1951	...	...	34
Shops Act, 1950	...	...	432
Interviews : owners, etc.	...	...	2,236
Miscellaneous	...	...	2,355

The sanitary inspections enumerated in the preceding table have been followed by the serving of notices given in the next table. A large proportion of the work is done as a result of verbal recommendations or preliminary notices.

<i>Defects</i>						<i>No. of notices served</i>
To remedy defective drainage ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	164
To repair roofs, walls, seats or doors of W.Cs. ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	186
To pave or re-pave yards, sculleries, or forecourts ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	24
To remove accumulations ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	32
To discontinue keeping animals ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1
To provide new dustbins ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	231
To repair roofs ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	477
To hack off defective external plastering of walls and re-render ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	101
To render walls ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	6
To repair walls ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	38
To repair or provide rain-water guttering or piping ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	259
To repair defective chimneys ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	61
To renew or repair and paint window-frames and sashes ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	117
To make windows open for ventilation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	3
To ventilate rooms ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	4
To fix air bricks in front and back walls ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	5
To provide sashlines ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	121
To lay new board floors and provide ventilation under same ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	46
To repair flooring of rooms and staircases, baluster-rails, etc. ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	113
To repair internal plastering of walls or ceilings ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	233
To cleanse rooms, bedding, etc. ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1
To repair washing coppers ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2
To repair fire grates ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	131
To supply new scullery sink with lead waste pipe ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	21
To renew, repair, or lengthen waste pipes of sinks ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	31
To remedy other defects ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	104
Number of sewer defects found and made good ....	...	...	...	...	...	77
To provide new w.c. pan, etc. ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	49

Legal proceedings were instituted, under Section 94, Public Health Act, 1936, in two cases where Abatement Notices had not been complied with. In each case the necessary repairs were carried out between the laying of the information and the date of hearing. The summonses were, therefore, withdrawn.

One application was made, under Section 47, National Assistance Act, 1948, for the removal to hospital of an old lady living in insanitary conditions. The Court granted an Order to this effect.

Under the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951, proceedings were commenced against a manufacturer for having on his premises filling materials which were not clean. A delay in the service of the summons, which did not allow 14 clear days before the date of return, resulted in the case being dismissed.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

Two operators are employed full-time on this work and two men are employed part-time on rodent control and part-time on disinfestation work.

The normal sewer maintenance treatments were carried out during the year and the block control system used in all appropriate cases.

Total complaints investigated (primary visits) ... ..	...	...	...	...	697
Total visits made for treatment ... ..	...	...	...	...	1,629
Total premises treated ... ..	...	...	...	...	562
Survey visits ... ..	...	...	...	...	3,269

VERMIN DISINFESTATION

399 visits were made to verminous premises by the disinfestation staff and 252 rooms in 237 houses were fumigated. Fees amounting to £232.2.6 were received from the owners of these properties.

HOUSING

Number of houses completed during 1953 :

Private builders completed 276 dwellings and converted 14 houses into 50 flats.

The Corporation completed 491 houses and flats.

REQUISITIONING

Number of requisitioned premises	..	..	149
Families accommodated	..	..	338
Number of persons rehoused	..	adults 694 ; children	514

SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRESS

	<i>During 1953</i>	<i>Total under Slum Clearance Programme</i>
Number of Unfit Houses in Clearance Areas demolished ...	—	1,026
Number of other Houses in Clearance Areas demolished ...	—	56
Number of Individual Unfit Houses demolished (Statutory action)	4	110
(Informal action)	5	113
Number of Individual Unfit Houses Closed but not demolished	1	9
Number of parts of dwelling-houses closed	2	270
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit for human habitation by Formal action	—	514
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit for human habitation by Informal action	52	2,052
Number of persons displaced from Individual Unfit Houses...	23	579
Number of persons displaced from Houses in Clearance Areas	—	4,631
Number of persons displaced from parts of buildings ...	9	93

THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATION OF ACTS RELATING TO SHOPS, FACTORIES, WORKPLACES, BAKEHOUSES, AND OUTWORKERS

Factories Act, 1937

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Factories	..	..	..	..	1,254
Workplaces	..	..	..	..	125
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	143

NOTICES SERVED

Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1)	..	..	..	..	55
Unreasonable temperature (Sec. 3)	..	..	..	..	1
Inadequate ventilation (Sec. 4)	..	..	..	..	21
Insufficient sanitary conveniences (Sec. 7)	..	..	..	..	7
Unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences	..	..	..	..	18
Sanitary conveniences not separate for sexes	..	..	..	..	3

Shops Act, 1950

Visits, inspections and interviews	..	..	..	..	2,685
Check visits under Section 1	..	..	..	..	9,040
Check visits under Sections 2 to 8	..	..	..	..	3,800
Check visits under Part IV	..	..	..	..	5,950
Complaints investigated	..	..	..	..	77
Visits under Young Persons Employment Act, 1938	..	..	..	..	59

NOTICES SERVED

Sec. 1. Shops failing to close on weekly half holidays	..	70
Sec. 2. Shops failing to observe hours of closing	.. ..	8
Sec. 12. Hawkers and stall-holders warned	.. ..	14
Sec. 13. Shops where several trades or businesses are carried on failing to observe the conditions prescribed	.. ..	42
Sec. 17. Failing to give Statutory weekly half holidays to assistants	.. ..	13
Sec. 19. Failing to provide intervals for meals	.. ..	8
Sec. 22. Failing to give compensatory holiday in respect of Sunday employment	.. ..	21
Sec. 37. Failing to provide seats for females	.. ..	32
Sec. 47. Failing to close on Sundays	.. ..	64

Legal Proceedings

Proceedings were instituted under the Shops Act, 1950, against eight shopkeepers, resulting in two fines of £5, one of 60/-, one of 40/-, one of 20/-, two of 10/- each, and one case was dismissed.

Two warnings were issued by the Town Clerk.

Applications and Petitions

Three applications were received from persons of the Jewish religion who made statutory declarations for the purposes of trading under Section 53.

Four applications were received and Orders made under Sections 40 and 41 on behalf of traders situated in a specified area of the town dealing in fruit, flowers and vegetables and dealers in toys, fancy goods and photographic requisites.

Two Orders were made, under Section 42 of the Act, in respect of Exhibitions held at the Dome and Corn Exchange.

Two Orders were made suspending the weekly half holiday—the occasion of the Coronation of Her Majesty the Queen and during the period preceeding Christmas.

A petition received under Section 48 of the Act from Bakers and Confectioners did not provide the necessary majority of votes for an Order to be made.

Theatres and Cinemas

358 visits were made to places of public entertainment during the year.

Minor defects or contraventions of the licensing conditions were dealt with by informal action and verbal notices at the time of inspection.

Conditions generally were good, and amongst other improvements, one theatre has provided an additional fire escape to the dressing-room accommodation and a cinema is having additional sanitary accommodation provided for both sexes.

FOOD

The following visits were made to premises where food is prepared, stored, or sold :

Bakehouses	348	Race-Course Food Premises	103
Dairies/Milkshops	1,086	Retail Food Shops	644
Food-Preparing Premises ...	386	Restuarants, Cafes, Snack Bars	530
Ice Cream Premises	1,249	Catering Licence applications	107
Markets/Cold Stores	93	Visits for condemnation of unfit foodstuffs	418
Butchers	186	Visits under Labelling of Food Order	8
Fried Fish Shops	73	Miscellaneous	157
Hotels	123		
Licensed Premises	102		
Mobile Food Shops and Hawkers' barrows	89		

NOTICES SERVED

Food-preparing Premises

To cleanse rooms and yards	...	...	...	...	49
To provide ventilation	...	...	...	...	17
To provide washing facilities	...	...	...	...	58
To cleanse and repair floors	...	...	...	...	30
To cleanse and repair walls and ceilings	...	...	...	...	70
To provide adequate lighting	...	...	...	...	5
To provide constant hot water	...	...	...	...	138
To provide intervening ventilated space to W.Cs.	...	...	...	...	8
To cleanse apparatus, equipment, and utensils	...	...	...	...	44
To provide protected food display and storage facilities	...	...	...	...	67
To provide additional sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	4
To provide new impervious floor	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	9

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938

Milk

Samples analysed : formal, 16 ; informal, 18.

Seven formal samples of milk taken in transit from farm to dairy were reported as deficient in solids not fat, and two samples from the same consignment were deficient in both fat and solids not fat. The freezing points of two of these unsatisfactory samples were those of genuine milk. "Appeal to the cow" samples were taken at the farm, each one being deficient in solids not fat and each having a genuine freezing point.

On following up two unsatisfactory samples from a farm it was found that the farmer had died during the week in which the samples had been taken. Under the circumstances the matter was not proceeded with.

Two samples of Channel Island Milk were reported by the Public Analyst as deficient in fat. In each case the sample had a fat content in excess of the legal standard laid down by the Sale of Milk Regulations and contravened only the Milk (Control and Maximum Prices) Order.

Four informal samples of milk were reported as deficient in solids not fat. Formal follow-up samples taken immediately afterwards proved to be satisfactory.

In all the above cases the County Milk Production Officer was given a report and asked to visit the farms concerned. This officer's co-operation has been extremely valuable to the Department during the year.

Samples of Food and Drugs other than Milk

Beef Suet	...	...	2	Olive Oil	...	...	3	Cinnamon	...	...	1
Dripping	...	...	3	Ammonia	...	...	1	Pepper Compound	...	...	2
Jellies	...	...	4	Liver tonic	...	...	1	Disprin	...	...	7
Coffee	...	...	11	Cornflour	...	...	1	Tea	...	...	1
Pork Sausages	...	...	16	Cereals	...	...	1	Glucose	...	...	2
Puddings	...	...	5	Chitterlings	...	...	1	Chutney	...	...	1
Soft drinks	...	...	8	Custard Powder	...	...	4	Sugared Confectionery	...	...	3
Pickling Condiment	...	...	2	Wines	...	...	2	Arrowroot	...	...	1
Ice Cream	...	...	39	Spices	...	...	5	Tinned Vegetables	...	...	4
Morphine	...	...	1	Coconut Ice	...	...	2	Soup	...	...	1
Hydrogen Peroxide	...	...	1	Semolina	...	...	3	Cough Syrup	...	...	1
Cream	...	...	17	Salad Dressing	...	...	2	Gee's Linctus	...	...	1
Baking Powder	...	...	3	Beef Loaf	...	...	3	Vanilla Essence	...	...	1
Gound Almonds	...	...	2	Herbs	...	...	3	Cooking Salt	...	...	1
Mincemeat	...	...	1	Chemical Food	...	...	1	Influenza Tablets	...	...	1
Cake and Cake Mix- tures	...	...	11	Preserves	...	...	11	Vinegar	...	...	1
Mixed Peel	...	...	3	Nuts	...	...	1	Sodium Bicarbonate	...	...	2
Flour	...	...	5	Caraway Seeds	...	...	1	Ground Ginger	...	...	1
Glacé Cherries	...	...	2	Tinned Fruit	...	...	3	Sauce	...	...	1
Synthetic Cream Powder	...	...	3	Vermicelli	...	...	1	Frozen Fruit	...	...	2
				Curry Powder	...	...	1	Frozen fish	...	...	1

Two samples of different types of soft drink were found on examination to contain mould spores and have musty flavours. In each case the bottle was part of old stock and the vendor voluntarily surrendered the remainder of the consignment.

The manufacturer of a sample of Cloudy Ammonia, which was found to have a low ammonia content, was notified by letter and warned that any further unsatisfactory reports would be followed by legal action.

An ice cream sample was found, on chemical analysis, to be deficient in milk solids and another sample, from a different manufacturer, was reported as deficient in fat. In the first case the vendor, after an interview, returned his stock of ice cream powder to the manufacturer and in the second instance the manufacturer adjusted the proportions of ingredients in his mix. Follow up samples in both cases have proved consistently satisfactory.

An informal sample of pork sausages was found to contain 59% meat content. Although the legal standard of 65% meat content had been revoked as from 1st March, 1953, the Public Analyst gave the opinion that the sausages were deficient in meat content, basing his report on two cases which had recently been the subject of prosecutions in other parts of the country. Two formal samples were taken immediately and proved to have meat contents of 57% and 57.5%. The facts were placed before the Town Clerk's Department and we were informed that in the absence of definite legal standards prosecution was not considered advisable. The manufacturers and vendors were warned by letter.

FERTILIZERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT 1926

Twenty-nine visits were made to premises under the above-mentioned Act and twenty-four samples were taken for analysis.

One sample of Hoof and Horn Meal was reported as having 1.5% excess nitrogen. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, whose consent is necessary for the institution of legal proceedings, requested that the result of this sample should be passed to the inspector in whose area the manufacturer's premises were situated. This was done.

In another case a proprietary brand of feeding stuff was reported as having deficiencies of albuminoids and oil content. The Ministry's Technical Officer was asked for a ruling and stated that vitamin and mineral feeding supplements did come within the scope of the scheduled articles and that action could not be taken under the Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act.

SAMPLES SUBMITTED TO BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Nature of Article	Number Examined	Found Satisfactory	Found Unsatisfactory	Remarks
Pasteurised Milk	243	235	8	All samples were bottled on farms outside the Borough. Every case was referred to the County Milk Production Officer for investigation
Pasteurised (Channel Island) Milk	76	74	2	
T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk	136	134	2	
T.T. (Pasteurised) Channel Island Milk	82	79	3	
Sterilised Milk	38	38	0	
Tuberculin Tested Milk	76	70	6	
Tuberculin Tested (Channel Island) Milk	268	247	21	
Bottle rinses ...	152	152	0	
Water	132	132	0	
Ice Cream ...	598	481	117	
				481 in Grades I and II 87 in Grade III 30 in Grade IV

Cream

The inclusion of the Borough within a Specified Area, in which only specially designated milks may be sold, has given rise to an anomalous situation.

Section 28 of the Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950, specifically excludes cream from the definition of milk. The sale of unpasteurised cream within an otherwise "Specified Area", therefore appears to be quite legal.

The position is obviously unsatisfactory. Although all milk in the Borough must be either Tuberculin Tested or Pasteurised; cream, which may possibly contain tubercule bacilli, can be sold without any form of pasteurisation.

The concern which is felt over this point is emphasized by the results of a series of samples taken during the quarter April-June. 65 samples of cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and, of these, 19 failed the Methylene Blue test and four failed the Phosphatase Test.

Investigation into Keeping Qualities of Milk

During a period of hot weather in July complaints were received from local dairies as to the keeping qualities of milk being delivered from producers outside the Borough.

As a result, 2,549 samples were taken from bulk supplies of ungraded and T.T. milk prior to pasteurisation during July and August. The results were poor. Nearly 60% of all samples failed to pass the methylene blue test.

To obtain a true picture further samples were taken during the cooler weather between September and December. 320 samples of ungraded milk were taken and 332 samples of T.T. milk in bulk. 181 of the ungraded samples and 64 of the T.T. samples failed to pass the methylene blue test.

Whilst the ungraded milk does not have to comply with the standards of the Special Designations (Raw Milk) Regulations, these results are far from satisfactory. The town's milk is safeguarded by pasteurisation but it does appear that some milk producers are relying on heat treatment to cover deficiencies in clean milk production.

EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR TUBERCLE BACILLI

49 samples of milk and 5 samples of cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for biological examination. In two instances the guinea pigs died prematurely, which nullified the tests. All the remaining samples were reported as negative for tubercle bacilli.

Brucella Abortus was isolated in seven samples and notices were served under Regulation 20, Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949, on two producers, requiring them to have all their milk supplies heat treated before sale. The matter was reported to the Divisional Veterinary Officer who made the necessary clinical examinations of the herds. The notices were withdrawn upon receipt of his clearance certificate.

In this connection I should like to thank the Veterinary Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries whose ready and courteous co-operation at all times is greatly appreciated.

WATER SUPPLY

During the year 132 samples of water were taken and all of them proved satisfactory.

SWIMMING BATHS

145 samples of water were taken from Swimming Baths and Paddling Pools in the Borough.

32 results were unsatisfactory and of these 12 came from one paddling pool and 7 from another.

In each of these cases the pool was being used to its maximum capacity. The managers were interviewed and advice was given regarding efficient chlorination and filtration. Regular inspection and sampling continued and the results improved considerably after this action.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT 1951

28 samples of filling materials and stuffed articles were taken during the year and of these three failed to meet legal standards.

A sample of down was found to contain 15% excess impurities. Legal proceedings were instituted but the service of the summons on the manufacturer, whose premises were in London, was delayed. As the defendant had not had a clear fourteen days notice before the summons was returnable the Bench had to dismiss the case on this technical point.

A feather pillow was reported as having a slight excess of total impurities and the matter was taken up with the manufacturers. As a result, the firm installed additional dusting machinery which obviated further trouble.

In the third instance the excess percentage of Trash Content was so small as to make any legal action unnecessary. The vendors were informed of the result by letter and advised as to the action necessary to comply with the Act.

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AT THE PUBLIC ABATTOIR

For the Ministry of Food:

Cattle, 13,886 ; Calves, 6,334 ; Sheep, 20,917 ; Pigs, 10,978.

For Private Individuals:

Goats, 1 ; Pigs, 85.

	Beasts	Calves	Sheep and Goats	Pigs
Number inspected	13,886	6,334	20,918	11,063
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	8	38	15	28
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8,354	23	3,518	1,453
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	60.22	0.96	16.89	13.39
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	68	8	—	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2,853	1	—	381
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	21.04	0.14	—	3.52

Casualties

Included in the above Ministry of Food slaughtering figures are animals which were sent to the Brighton Abattoir by reason of injury, disease or contact with contagious disease. In 1953 the total casualties amounted to : 57 Beasts, 14 Calves, 31 Sheep and 1,234 Pigs. Total condemnation was necessary in respect of 4 Beasts, 3 Calves, 1 Sheep and 24 Pigs.

Average Number of Animals Slaughtered per Working Day during 1953

	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
Number of Working Days	51	21	50	51	52	53	50
Beasts	1	54	67	55	55	43	27
Calves	1	—	61	20	14	26	2
Sheep and Goats	1	53	71	79	105	97	57
Pigs	2	9	25	61	49	50	36

Total weight of edible meat and offal condemned at the Abattoir during 1953 :

133 tons 16 cwts. 3 qtrs. 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

FOODSTUFFS FROM MARKETS AND SHOPS SURRENDERED
FOR CONDEMNATION, 1953.

Baby Foods	...	...	270 tins	Margarine	...	...	15 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	3383 lbs.	Meat	...	...	4000 tins
Barley Crystals	...	...	33 tins	Milk	...	...	2954 tins
Butter	...	...	8 lbs.	Mincemeat	...	...	36 jars
Cakes	...	...	170 lbs.	Nibbets	...	...	23 pkts.
Cat and Dog Food	...	...	299 tins	Paste	...	...	282 jars
Cereals	...	...	52 pkts.	Peaches	...	...	39 trays
Cheese	...	...	246 lbs.	Peas	...	...	944 lbs.
Cheese (cream)	...	...	3132 pkts.	Peanut Butter	...	...	5 jars
Custard Powder	...	...	720 pkts.	Pies	...	...	2847
Coffee	...	...	19 botts.	Pickles	...	...	88 jars
Cream	...	...	2247 ctns.	Poultry	...	...	662 lbs.
Desserts	...	...	684 pkts.	Preserves	...	...	352 jars
Dried Fruit	...	...	478 lbs.	Puddings	...	...	157 tins
Fish (tinned)	...	...	471 tins	Rabbits	...	...	884 lbs.
Fish (wet)	...	...	4547 stone	Rice	...	...	6 lbs.
Fish (dried)	...	...	312 stone	Salad Cream	...	...	232 jars
Flour	...	...	88 lbs.	Sandwich Spread	...	...	46 jars
Fruit (tinned)	...	...	10825 tins	Sauces	...	...	87 botts.
Fruit juice	...	...	58 tins	Sausages	...	...	3391 lbs.
Ground Almonds	...	...	4½ lbs.	Shellfish	...	...	586 stone
Ham (tinned)	...	...	2446 lbs.	Soup	...	...	600 tins
Ham	...	...	459 lbs.	Soup	...	...	288 ctns.
Honey	...	...	11 jars	Spaghetti	...	...	104 tins
Jelly	...	...	61 pkts.	Tomato Juice	...	...	9 tins
Jellied Veal	...	...	4¾ lbs.	Vegetables	...	...	4312 tins
Luncheon Meat	...	...	8 lbs.	Christmas Puddings	...	...	104

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

One hundred and twenty-seven visits were made to butchers' shops for the examination and condemnation of unsound fresh and frozen meat, and canned meats.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

Thirty-two slaughtermen were holding licences on 31st December, 1953.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS

Sheep Scab Order of 1936

One notification of intention to dip sheep was notified and arrangements made for a Police Officer to be present at the sheep-dipping to ensure that the requirements of the above-mentioned Order were complied with.

Fowl Pest Orders of 1936 and 1947

All cases of sudden illness or death in poultry, suggestive of fowl pest, were reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Seven outbreaks of fowl pest were confirmed and restrictions prohibiting movement of poultry were imposed on eleven contact premises in the County Borough.

Tuberculosis Order of 1938

Under the above Order, seven premises were reported to the Divisional Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as a result of finding congenital tuberculosis in eight calves, one of which was unidentified. As a consequence of visits and inspections of the herds involved, six cows were destroyed and one investigation produced a negative result.

Upon post-mortem examination, five cows were found to be affected with advanced tuberculosis within the meaning of the Order, whilst the other cow had tuberculosis, but not in an advanced stage.

Foot-and-Mouth (Infected and Controlled Areas) Orders of 1938

The County Borough of Brighton this year was not included in either an Infected Area or a Controlled Area.

Anthrax Order of 1938

Six premises, where the sudden death of an animal had occurred, were declared to be Infected Places within the meaning of this Order. In three instances, Certificates of Non-Existence of Disease were issued on the same day by the Veterinary Officer. On the other three premises, the carcasses were cremated, the premises disinfected and laboratory investigations were carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Anthrax was not confirmed.

At a local Knacker's Yard, whilst boning out a beast carcass, the knacker-man found lesions suggestive of Anthrax. This concerned a beast that had died suddenly outside the County Borough and was released, after veterinary inspection, to the Knacker's Yard. The carcass and offal were cremated and the premises disinfected. After laboratory investigation this case was confirmed as Anthrax.

Swine Fever Order of 1950

Six cases of suspect Swine Fever were reported to the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. In two instances, both involving a casualty brought to the Brighton Abattoir, swine fever was confirmed.

In the other four cases, investigations involving the post-mortem examination of pigs that had died on small-holdings were carried out and three outbreaks of swine fever were confirmed.

Regulation of Movements of Swine Order of 1950

All swine arriving on premises in the County Borough were visited by Police Officers during the prescribed period. Sixteen visits were made by the Inspector of the Local Authority, on request, because of suspicious illness, and two pigs were slaughtered at the Brighton Abattoir within the prescribed period.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Principal School Medical Officer

W. S. PARKER

M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.I.H., D.P.H.

1953

BRIGHTON

PELL (BRIGHTON) LTD., 105 CHURCH STREET—(B24778)

SCHOOL CLINIC,
SUSSEX STREET,
BRIGHTON.

April, 1954.

*To the Local Education Authority for the
County Borough of Brighton.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Principal School Medical Officer for the year 1953.

The outstanding feature of the year has been the final adoption of my suggestion that all persons taking up school employment under the Brighton Education Authority in the future should have an annual chest X-ray re-examination. This preventive step means that from now on there will be an annual re-check for tuberculosis on all newcomers caring for school children in the municipal service.

Brighton is, to my knowledge, the first County Borough in the country to adopt such a progressive measure and this has justified itself from the outset. I have to report that the very first employee to whom this condition of service was applied was a young woman of 27. At her first annual re-examination pulmonary tuberculosis was detected. She was immediately removed from duty and I am happy to say was given surgical treatment which has effected a complete cure. What is much more important is that the children with whom she had been in contact are now safe from the hideous risk of tuberculosis: the source of infection has been identified and eliminated. If there had been no *annual* X-ray this employee would still be on duty in the schools spreading infection on all sides, probably for a period of years, until her health finally broke down.

The lesson of this is simple. All persons in contact with children should have an annual chest X-ray. Unfortunately, this cannot be required compulsorily of teachers and others already engaged under previous terms of service but it is to be hoped that this example may encourage these persons to attend the annual visit of the Mass X-ray Unit both in their own interest and in the interest of the children entrusted to their care.

In 1953 the Ministry of Education published the new School Health and Handicapped Pupils Regulations which came into force on 4th August, 1953. The new provisions alter the suggestions for medical inspections.

Authorities are given more latitude regarding the ages when medical inspections are carried out in the school health service. The initial examination at about five years and when leaving school at about fifteen years are again suggested.

When the intermediate inspection is carried out is left to the discretion of the local authority. If this examination is decided in the last year of the junior school, some teachers and parents feel that there is interference with the vital task of taking the scholarship examination. Teachers will soon be parting with the pupils and will be unable to see any change in abnormalities noted by the doctor ; whereas the secondary school teachers will not have the benefit of a personal talk with the medical officer about children with special difficulties.

If the examination is scheduled for the first year in the senior school there will be a long gap between the first examination at five years and the second inspection about eleven and a half years of age. The question of increased medical and nursing staff is raised if it is considered necessary to carry out a fourth inspection when the school child goes into the junior school. This additional examination is probably best for all concerned, as the school medical officers can meet the new teachers when the child does, help can be given to the teacher about particular physical and mental difficulties in certain children and teacher, parent, doctor and nurse are in a favourable position to co-operate to the child's advantage.

I wish to express my appreciation of the continuing interest of the Chairman and Members of the School Services Sub-Committee of the Education Committee on the work of the service in the past year.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. S. PARKER,

Principal School Medical Officer.

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1953

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor W. H. G. Button

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR	COUNCILLOR G. HEAD
(ALDERMAN J. E. HAY)	„ MRS. E. M. HIDER
ALDERMAN T. P. CULLEN	„ E. W. KIPPIN
„ J. A. T. LEAK	„ A. J. SADLER
„ H. J. ROBBINS	„ J. C. SHERROTT
„ D. E. STRINGER	„ MISS E. M. SHORT, M.R.S.T.
„ C. H. TYSON, B.SC.	„ MISS J. M. K. SIMMONS, M.A.
COUNCILLOR D. S. Y. BAKER, M.B.E.	MR. D. CORRIE
„ A. E. BASSETT	MR. E. W. R. EDE
„ MRS. A. H. BEVIS	MR. E. J. FITZGERALD
„ W. H. G. BUTTON	MRS. S. FOWLER
„ B. A. CRABB	MISS M. N. HOROBIN
„ S. D. DEASON	MR. T. A. MARKHAM
„ A. P. DE BAUGHN	MRS. M. G. MILLS
„ G. FITZGERALD	MR. A. L. PERKINS
„ C. R. GERRARD	MR. F. STEEL

SCHOOLS SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman : Alderman J. A. T. Leak

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR	COUNCILLOR DE BAUGHN
(ALDERMAN J. E. HAY)	„ HEAD
ALDERMAN ROBBINS	„ MRS. HIDER
COUNCILLOR BAKER	„ KIPPIN
„ MRS. BEVIS	„ MISS SHORT
„ BUTTON	MR. EDE
„ DEASON	MRS. FOWLER

MANAGERS OF THE BRIGHTON DAY SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR EDUCATIONALLY SUB-NORMAL CHILDREN

Chairman : Councillor Button

ALDERMAN LEAK	COUNCILLOR HEAD
„ ROBBINS	„ SADLER
„ MISS STRINGER	„ MISS SHORT
COUNCILLOR BAKER	MR. EDE
„ DE BAUGHN	MRS. BRANFORD
„ GERRARD	

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE STAFF

Medical Officers

- W. S. PARKER, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.I.H., D.P.H., Principal School Medical Officer.
- I. D. M. NELSON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., Deputy Principal School Medical Officer.
- L. B. PETERS, M.B., B.S., Senior School Medical Officer.
- L. D. WILLIAMS, T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., School Medical Officer.
- A. O'CALLAGHAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., School Medical Officer.
- J. A. CHOLMELEY, F.R.C.S., Orthopaedic Surgeon (part-time).

Dental Officers

- D. MACKAY, L.D.S., Principal School Dental Officer.
- B. A. RILOT, L.D.S.R.C.S., School Dental Officer.
- PAULINE OSIS, D.D.D., School Dental Officer.
- C. S. NEAME, L.D.S.R.C.S., School Dental Officer.
- R. CAWLEY, L.D.S.R.C.S., School Dental Officer (from 2.2.53 to 31.12.53).
- N. R. W. SPACEK, M.B., D.A., F.F.A.R.C.S., Anaesthetist (part-time) (from 14.10.53).

Speech Clinic

- Miss J. ASHDOWN, L.C.S.T.
- Miss A. McILROY, L.C.S.T. (Temporary from 1.9.53)

Orthopaedic Clinic

- Miss J. M. GOLDSMITH, M.C.S.P., Senior Physiotherapist.
- MRS. D. McNULTY, M.C.S.P., Assistant Physiotherapist.

School Nurses

- Miss E. DENT, Senior School Nurse (resigned 29.12.53)
- Miss V. M. BURR (resigned 28.12.53)
- Miss E. M. LEWIS (resigned 24.10.53)
- MRS. M. REED
- Miss M. J. RAFFERTY
- Miss A. ORRIDGE (from 7.12.53)

Clerical Staff

- MR. F. N. WRIGHT
- Miss V. I. NANSCAWEN
- Miss P. DAVIS
- Miss J. LANGSTON (Orthopaedic Clerk) (resigned 16.5.53)
- Miss C. GREEN (Orthopaedic Clerk) (from 15.5.53)

Dental Attendants

- Miss D. SILVER, Senior Dental Attendant
- Miss B. CHILDS, Dental Attendant
- Miss P. STRONG, Dental Attendant
- Miss B. MARSHALL, Dental Attendant (resigned 29.12.53)
- Miss S. BARNABY, Dental Attendant (from 16-2-53 to 26.12.53)
- MRS. D. J. MORLEY, Dental Attendant (from 28.12.53)

Schools Maintained by the Authority

The following summary shows the number of schools maintained by the Brighton Education Authority and the attendance of children thereat during the Educational year ended 1952/53 :

	<i>No. of Schools</i>	<i>Average No. on Registers</i>	<i>Average Attendance</i>
County Secondary	16	6,235	5,686
Voluntary Secondary	1	274	246
County Primary	33	10,711	9,465
Voluntary Primary	14	2,809	2,479
	<hr/> 64	<hr/> 20,029	<hr/> 17,876
Brighton Day Special School ..	1	99	88
Nursery Schools	2	79	68
Brighton, Hove and Sussex Grammar School	1	509	485
(Jointly maintained by Brighton and East Sussex Education Authorities)			

Of these, 243 pupils belong to Brighton
259 pupils belong to East Sussex and
7 pupils to other Education Authorities.

MEDICAL INSPECTION

The children inspected in the age groups prescribed by Regulation 49 (2) (a), (b) and (c) of the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1945, numbered 4,911, the figure for the previous year was 4,203. In addition to this number, 843 children of various ages not within the specified age groups (a), (b) and (c) were inspected. The age groups inspected were :

(a) Children inspected as soon as possible after the date of admission to a maintained school for the first time ..	2,108
(b) Children inspected during the last year of their attendance at a maintained Primary School	1,469
(c) Children inspected during the last year of their attendance at a maintained Secondary School	1,334
	<hr/> 4,911
Others	843
	<hr/> Grand Total ..
	<hr/> 5,754

In Secondary Grammar Schools pupils were inspected in the following age groups :

- (a) Entrants
- (b) 14 + group
- (c) 16 + group

Pupils attending the Hollingdean Special School for Educationally Sub-Normal Pupils were examined in all age groups. All children from outside the Borough were inspected as soon as possible after their admittance to a maintained school.

The percentage of children found to require treatment was : Group (a), 30.97 ; Group (b), 28.75 ; Group (c), 19.11 ; Others, 41.87. 211 new cases of defective vision were found at the routine medical inspections.

The attendance of parents at school medical inspection again remained at approximately the same level as in previous years. 92% of parents attended the initial examination of entrants ; 72% attended the intermediate examination, and 17% attended the medical examination of school-leavers.

Immunisation at Schools

As soon as possible after the routine medical inspection is completed, the doctor concerned visits the school again and immunises those children whose parents are willing. During the year 330 primary injections were given and 1,126 children received re-inforcing doses.

Location of Clinics

Clinic	Times of Attendance	Work Undertaken
Central School Clinic, Sussex Street	Full-time	Centre for examination of special cases, ophthalmic, orthopaedic and speech therapy. Inspection, minor ailment and immunisation clinics. Routine dental treatment and dental treatment of emergency cases. General anaesthetics and dental radiography. Infant Welfare appointments.
Branch Medical Clinics :		
Moulsecoomb Senior Boys' School	Thursday afternoons	Minor ailment (Nurse only)
Whitehawk Senior Boys' School	Friday afternoons	Minor ailment (Nurse only)
Patcham Infants' School	Alternate Wednesday afternoons	Minor ailment (Nurse only)
Carden Infants' School	Alternate Wednesday afternoons	Minor ailment (Nurse only)
Carden Junior School	Monday all day	Speech therapy
Whitehawk Infant Welfare Centre	Tuesday all day	Speech therapy
Moulsecoomb Senior Girls' School	Wednesday all day	Speech therapy
Balfour Road School	Thursday afternoon	Speech therapy
Branch Dental Clinics :		
Carden Junior School	Tuesday all day	Emergency cases, routine appointments. Infant Welfare appointments.
ditto	Wednesday morning	Routine appointments
ditto	Friday all day	Emergency cases. Routine appointments.
Whitehawk Infant Welfare Centre	Monday all day	Emergency cases, routine appointments. Infant Welfare appointments.
ditto	Thursday all day	Emergency cases. Routine appointments.
Moulsecoomb Villas, Infant Welfare Centre	Monday all day	Routine appointments. Infant Welfare appointments.
ditto	Tuesday morning	Emergency cases. Routine appointments.
ditto	Thursday morning	Routine appointments.
ditto	Friday all day	Emergency cases. Routine appointments.
Child Guidance Clinic, Princes Street	Thursday - 3 sessions	Child Guidance.
ditto	Friday morning	Child Guidance
Cleansing Station, Circus Street	Full-time	Contagious skin conditions

Number of Attendances at Clinics. (The figures in brackets here, and throughout the Report, are the corresponding figures for 1952.)

At Central School Clinic :

30,568 (32,725) made by 12,472 (12,772) children.

At Moulsecoomb Branch

Minor Ailment Clinic : 602 (484) „ „ 226 (219) „

At Whitehawk Branch

Minor Ailment Clinic : 331 (427) „ „ 253 (239) „

At Patcham and Carden Branch

Minor Ailment Clinics : 53 (82) „ „ 38 (44) „

Other Particulars

Special inspections at Clinic and Schools by Medical

Staff 4,181 (3,996)

Reinspections at Clinic and Schools by Medical Staff 5,647 (6,892)

Attendance of parents at inspections 3,727 (2,920)

Refusals of medical inspection 17 (14)

Visits to School Departments by School Nurses .. 458 (446)

Cleanliness examinations of children in school by

Nurses 48,515 (64,467)

Home visits by Nurses 754 (472)

MEDICAL TREATMENT

Defect	No. of Children Treated	Re-examinations	Total Attendances	Discharged
External Eye :				
Blepharitis	85 (101)	278 (284)	363 (385)	82 (101)
Conjunctivitis	79 (172)	307 (597)	386 (769)	75 (171)
Others	127 (174)	392 (505)	519 (679)	120 (165)
Ear :				
Earache	245 (254)	647 (536)	892 (790)	237 (250)
Otorrhoea	62 (80)	522 (373)	584 (453)	51 (61)
Deafness	25 (41)	33 (66)	58 (107)	25 (40)
Skin :				
Ringworm, scalp	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
„ body	6 (17)	10 (86)	16 (103)	6 (14)
Scabies	7 (29)	7 (29)	14 (58)	7 (29)
Impetigo	54 (101)	186 (333)	240 (434)	53 (96)
Miscellaneous	2,195 (1,827)	3,683 (4,310)	5,878 (6,137)	1,981 (1,731)
Other skin	347 (484)	812 (1,005)	1,159 (1,489)	317 (389)
Orthopaedic	1,254 (1,372)	5,690 (5,983)	6,944 (7,355)	234 (434)
Speech	267 (243)	3,262 (2,311)	3,529 (2,554)	
Visual	434 (Treated at Ophthalmic Clinic, School Clinic)			

1953 has seen an increase in liaison with private doctors. In the case of all handicapped children sent away to residential schools, private doctors are automatically informed and they also receive reports from the Orthopaedic Surgeon on all cases seen by him at the orthopaedic clinic. It would seem that more and more it is being realised by all concerned that the School Health Service and the private doctors are complementary, not in competition. This is well shown by the fact that private doctors call at the Clinic to discuss problems of children under their care.

As yet it has not been possible to implement the suggestion regarding the provision of a more comprehensive medical and nursing service at the branch clinics. The only development in this connection has occurred in the case of speech therapy.

Tonsil and Adenoid Operations

It would appear from the returns we received in connection with tonsil and adenoid operations, the position has deteriorated and that the waiting list has lengthened since the arrangements for operation were centered at the Throat and Ear Hospital. During the year 544 children were referred to hospital and the number of operations performed was 231.

Visual Defects

By arrangement with the South Eastern Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board an ophthalmic service has been established at the School Clinic with a consultant eye surgeon in charge. When the clinic opened the consultant made one attendance per fortnight but this was found to be quite inadequate and was subsequently increased to one session a week. There is no doubt that this has provided a very much improved service for the children and has enabled records to be kept of the results of treatment. The Sussex Eye Hospital deals with cases of squint and orthoptic treatment.

During the year 38 sessions were held, 434 children made 587 attendances and 198 children had glasses prescribed; the remainder either had suitable spectacles, did not require them, or required other forms of treatment for which they were referred to the minor ailment clinic or for further investigation at the Sussex Eye Hospital.

Children suffering from squint made 1,101 attendances to see the Ophthalmic Surgeon at the Sussex Eye Hospital, 367 children had spectacles prescribed and 139 children made 4,021 attendances at the orthoptic treatment centre: 91 children had operative treatment.

Cardiac Clinic

This clinic proceeded as in previous years.

Table of Types of Heart Defect

	Infants	Juniors	Seniors	Total
Mitral stenosis	—	1	—	1
Patent ductus arteriosus	3	1	—	4
Septal defect	1	3	1	5
Pulmonary incompetence	—	—	1	1
Paroxysmal tachycardia	—	—	2	2
Extra systoles	—	1	—	1
Incidental and innocent murmurs	19	10	9	38
Diagnosis not established	2	—	1	3
Heart healthy	12	1	4	17
	37	17	18	72

72 new cases were referred during the year (31 girls and 41 boys) and 122 old cases (60 girls and 62 boys) were re-examined.

Skin Conditions

The improvement noted last year in the number of cases of scabies showed an even more remarkable progress, there being only 7 cases in 1953.

Pediculosis

As in the case of scabies, there is once again an improvement in the number of children suffering from pediculosis, 399 in 1953 as against 490 in 1952. The improvement is not so dramatic as in the case of scabies, the condition being more difficult to eradicate as its detection is not so easy.

Attendances at the Cleansing Station

Verminous condition	..	..	825	(968)
Scabies cases	..	..	7	(29)

The number of Cleansing Orders issued was 2.

The School Nurses made an average attendance of 5 visits to each school, and made 48,515 (64,457) examinations.

Handicapped Pupils

The following shews the number of children ascertained in the various categories during the year requiring education at special schools :

(a) Blind Pupils	..	..	..	1	(—)
(b) Partially-sighted Pupils	..	..		1	(2)
(c) Deaf Pupils	..	..	..	1	(—)
(d) Partially-deaf Pupils	..	..		1	(4)
(e) Educationally Sub-normal Pupils				23	(27)
(f) Epileptic Pupils	..	..	..	2	(1)
(g) Maladjusted Pupils	..	..		9	(6)
(h) Physically Handicapped Pupils	..			5	(5)
(i) Speech Defects	..	..	..	—	(—)
(j) Delicate Pupils	..	..	..	41	(64)

10 children received tuition at home under arrangements approved by the Minister of Education, 9 being physically handicapped and 1 epileptic.

In addition to the 23 children requiring education in a special school for educationally sub-normal pupils, 9 children were recommended for special educational treatment in ordinary schools.

During the year the names of 26 children were recommended for notification to the Health Authority.

In the new School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations, 1953, some alteration has been made in the disposal of handicapped pupils in that all blind or deaf children must be educated in a special school, but in all other categories of handicapped pupils, individual cases may be educated at ordinary schools with special treatment adapted to their requirements.

Hollingdean Day Special School for Educationally Sub-normal Pupils

In 1953, 28 children left, 25 were admitted.

Number on register on December 31st, 1953, was 100.

Children in all age groups were examined during the year and the response from parents in bringing their children for any necessary medical treatment has been remarkably good. A start has now been made on the new school and it is hoped that it will be in operation by the end of next year.

Speech Clinic

This year has seen the appointment of a second speech therapist, Miss A. L. McIlroy, who took up duty in September.

As a result it has been possible to open branch clinics for speech therapy, thus enabling children to be treated in the outlying districts where mothers would find it difficult to make the long journey to the central clinic.

The waiting list has also been very much reduced and cases only have a week or two to wait for treatment as against six months or more before the appointment of the extra speech therapist. The speech therapists are also able to give more time to individual cases than in the past, thus giving a better service to the children.

As has been stated previously, a school population of 20,000 children should justify two whole-time speech therapists, and this has been fully borne out by experience in Brighton.

Number of new cases seen during				
the year	..	..	..	127 (105)
Number of Pupils treated	..	267	(243)	
Total number of attendances	..	3,262	(2,554)	
Total number of cases discharged	..	100	(67)	

Types of cases under treatment during the year :

Dyslalia (faulty articulation)	..	76	(46)
Stammer	..	45	(24)
Cleft Palate	..	11	(8)
Sigmatism (lisp)	..	28	(11)
Nasal speech	..	2	(1)
Deafness	..	—	(3)
Dysarthria	..	5	(3)

Medical Examination of Training College Students and Teachers

57 examinations were carried out by the medical staff of the school health service during the year.

ORTHOPAEDIC DEPARTMENT

MR. J. A. CHOLMELEY, F.R.C.S., Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon

As I have remarked in previous years, the Borough Orthopaedic Clinic very definitely justifies its existence as is shown by the number of new cases referred from the Infant Welfare and School Clinics.

Apart from the examination of these cases at the Surgeon's sessions, a great deal of most valuable treatment is carried out in this clinic by the Physiotherapists as the numbers show in the tables which follow. In addition to examination and treatment, surgical boots and appliances are ordered at the clinic and an instrument maker attends at each Surgeon's session.

In order to keep in touch with the General Practitioners, letters are now sent to them from the clinic on the examination of every new case.

The details of cases treated for the different Departments :

1. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Number of children treated	..	..	..	1,254	(1,372)
Total number of attendances	..	..	..	6,944	(7,355)
Number discharged (not including Surgeon's cases)	..			234	(434)

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Number of children treated	..	..	..	443	(305)
Total number of attendances	..	..	..	2,233	(1,379)
Number discharged (not including Surgeon's cases)	..			55	(24)

2. SURGEON'S SESSIONS

Number of sessions	..	..	..	21	(23)
Number of new cases referred from School Clinic	..			81	(68)
Number discharged	..	..	..	53	(45)
Number of new cases referred from M. & C.W. Department	..	..	..	51	(39)
Number discharged	..	..	..	32	(32)
Number of re-examinations	..	..	..	351	(497)

3. BREATHING EXERCISES AFTER THE REMOVAL OF TONSILS AND ADENOIDS

Number of patients attended	..	..	..	49	(167)
Number of attendances	..	..	..	70	(283)

4. SWIMMING BATH EXERCISES

Number of sessions	..	..	..	18	(15)
Number of patients	..	..	..	46	(40)
Number of attendances	..	..	..	311	(278)

5. IN-PATIENT TREATMENT AT R.N.O.H., STANMORE, MIDDLESEX

					<i>Number of Patients</i>
Education	..	..	..	..	7 (18)
M. & C.W.	..	..	..	..	7 (5)

Education Department

Types of new cases seen during the year :

Congenital Defects	..	..	..	53
Birth injuries	..	..	..	5
Rickets	..	..	..	9
Knock knees	..	..	..	63
Postural defects of the spine	..	..	..	149
Structural defects of the spine	..	..	..	9
Foot conditions (valgus ankles, pes planus, etc.)	..			288
Cerebral palsy	..	..	..	1
Injuries (including fractures)	..	..	..	5
Osteochondritis	..	..	..	4
General bone and epiphyseal disorders	..	..	..	2
Miscellaneous orthopaedic conditions	..	..	..	53

*Handicapped Children Maintained by the Brighton Education Committee in
Residential Schools and Hostels as at 31st December, 1953*

NAME OF SCHOOL	Blind	Partially Sighted	Deaf	Partially Deaf	Educationally Sub-Normal	Maladjusted	Delicate	Physically Handicapped	Speech Defects	Epileptic	TOTAL
<i>(a) RECOGNISED SCHOOLS</i>											
All Souls	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Barclay	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Blatchington Court	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Brentwood	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Bruce Porter Home	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Chaigeley	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Dedisham Nursery	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Drayton Manor	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Exhall Grange	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Fairfield House	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Hawkenbury Home	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Heritage Craft	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	13
Hinwick Hall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Holy Cross	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Lingfield Colony	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Meath Home	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Moor House	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Oak Bank	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Portley House	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Port Regis	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
Royal School, Margate	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Rudolph Memorial	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
St. Catherine's	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
St. Dominic's	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
St. Francis, Birmingham	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
St. Francis, Dorset	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
St. John's	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
St. Joseph's	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
St. Mary's	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
St. Patrick's	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
St. Vincent's	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
School for partially-deaf	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
<i>(b) INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS :</i>											
Beechcroft	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hamilton Lodge	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Hever Warren Hostel	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
St. Michael's Convent	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
*Wedges Farm Camp School	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Widdicombe House	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	3
TOTALS	3	5	16	6	7	11	21	15	1	3	88

*This School, admits children who are "below par" physically but who cannot be regarded as delicate under the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations.

Employment of Children

440 children were examined during the year in respect of part-time employment, the majority of these children being engaged in newspaper delivery.

Youth Employment

The arrangements in force again worked smoothly and co-operation was maintained with the Youth Employment Officer.

NUTRITION

Provision of Meals

Total number of meals supplied during 1953 as compared with 1952.

	1953	1952
Avenue Central Kitchen	349,906	352,195
Loder Road Central Kitchen	385,860	445,397
Bevendean School Canteen	41,928	52,992
Brighton, Hove and Sussex Grammar School Canteen	64,200	66,377
Brighton Secondary Building and Engineering School Canteen	36,430	44,946
Carden School Canteen	59,347	67,584
Coombe Road School Canteen	33,834	39,411
Hertford Road School Canteen (closed 31/12/52)	—	25,267
Moulsecoomb School Canteen	67,943	97,671
Patcham School Canteen	72,419	88,120
St. John's School Canteen	28,902	33,553
St. Mark's School Canteen	26,105	32,004
Stanmer School Canteen	52,418*	51,765
Sussex Street Infants' School Canteen ..	14,715	21,680
Tarnerland Nursery School Canteen	8,000	6,307†
Varndean Boys' School Canteen	71,196	72,741
Varndean Girls' School Canteen	92,022	100,312
Whitehawk School Canteen	83,169	94,997
Whitehouse Nursery School Canteen	6,268‡	7,604
Woodingdean School Canteen	35,745	41,097
	<u>1,530,407</u>	<u>1,742,020</u>

*Meals supplied from Avenue Central Kitchen for 1 week

† do. do. 8 weeks

‡ do. do. 9 weeks

Number of children receiving dinners and milk on selected days

	Meals	Milk
June 1953	6,802	No information
October 1953	7,145	17,060

DENTAL REPORT

Mr. D. Mackay, the Principal School Dental Officer, reports as follows :

The work of the department was carried out during the greater part of the year by five full-time dental surgeons assisted by five full-time dental attendants.

The treatment of patients referred from the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, which was resumed in April last year, was extended. Up to one session per week was reserved by each dentist for the treatment of these patients ; all the other sessions were devoted to the inspection and treatment of pupils in the Primary and Secondary Schools. Additional sessions were arranged at the Branch Dental Clinics for the treatment of children attending schools in the outlying areas of Patcham, Whitehawk and Moulsecoomb. The small temporary surgery, fitted up at the Moulsecoomb Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, is still being used. It is hoped that consideration may soon be given to the provision of a permanent structure to serve the clinical needs of this growing and important community.

Our main efforts are concentrated on preventing the onset of dental decay or on arresting its progress once it has started. We are concerned with the most prevalent disease affecting mankind today. What causes dental caries ? So far no one factor can be stated to be the real cause of the trouble. The answer appears to be a complex one involving several different factors. It does seem, however, that many of our present-day dental troubles are due to our so-called advanced civilization. In our craze for refinement our jaws are not getting enough work to do and we are loosing our teeth through lack of use. Excess of sugar and a high intake of sticky starchy foods seem to play a big part in the onset of caries. Admittedly this is not the complete picture, but now that sweets and biscuits are again freely available the importance of brushing the teeth just before bedtime cannot be stressed too strongly. The mouth is a perfect little incubator with heat, moisture and, if we are not careful, little scraps of food, all the things necessary for the increase of decay producing germs when the mouth and cheeks are quiet and at rest in the night. Children need not, therefore, be denied a reasonable amount of sweets providing they brush their teeth regularly, but they must never have a sweet or a biscuit in bed after the final nightly brushing of the teeth.

During the year a new sound colour film, entitled "Let's Keep our Teeth", was shown to various groups following a short talk on "Teeth and Health". The audiences included Grammar School and Secondary School Scholars, Student Health Visitors, Nursery School Trainees, Parents Associations and School Nurses. We were all interested to see some fine pictures of Eskimo children and surprised to learn that there is no word in the Eskimo language for toothache ; the nature of the food they eat apparently keeps their teeth in good condition.

In recent years many articles have appeared in the scientific journals concerning the influence of fluorides present in drinking water on the teeth. A brief summary of the studies made may be of interest. Early in this century it was noted that in certain areas teeth showed much brown staining and mottling on the surface enamel. In 1916 after a survey carried out in the United States in areas where mottling occurred, it was suggested that the condition was probably due to some factor in the drinking water. This was confirmed in 1931 as an abnormally high level of fluoride. Although fluoride is a natural constituent of practically all waters, it occurs for the most part

merely as a trace and few waters contain more than one part per million (1 p.p.m.) Interest increased when it was found that where water had a relatively high fluoride content the amount of caries was much lower.

Dr. Weaver, of the Ministry of Education, found that children in South Shields, where the fluoride in the water was 1.4 p.p.m., had 45% less caries than those in North Shields with a water fluoride content of only 0.025 p.p.m. In a later study carried out at West Hartlepool, where the water had fluoride present to the extent of 2.5 p.p.m., he found that the incidence of caries was even less than in South Shields, but an undesirable amount of enamel mottling was observed.

There appears to be a narrow margin between the amount of fluoride which apparently increases resistance to caries and that which causes disfigurement of the tooth enamel. Fluoridation of public water supplies has been carried out in recent years by health authorities in the United States and Canada. Fluorides were added to waters of low fluoride content to raise the concentration to the level of 1 p.p.m. with a view to the prevention of dental caries.

Miss Forrest, a Dental Officer of the Ministry of Health, has reported on an extensive investigation carried out during the year in the United States and Canada as a member of the United Kingdom Mission studying fluoridation of water supplies. The following is taken from the report: "There can be little doubt that fluoridation will eventually benefit not only children but also adults. It must not be thought, however, that it will cure caries and we do not yet know if it will retard the progress of any which already exists. All people will not benefit to the same extent for some who are particularly susceptible will still develop severe caries as they do in natural fluoride areas and those whose teeth are already formed before fluoridation is introduced will not be appreciably affected. Fluoridation will not reduce the cost of the dental services, but by lowering the incidence of caries it will enable dentists to cater more fully for the needs of the people, provide more conservative treatment and maintain a better standard of dental health."

Brighton water contains a trace of natural fluoride—a little less than 0.1 p.p.m.—so we shall watch any developments and further studies with interest.

The services of a specialist anaesthetist, approved by the Committee as a measure to raise the standard of care for dental cases, became available from October on a sessional basis. This doctor also works for the Regional Hospital Board in our local hospitals and a much improved liaison between the two services will be of benefit to our patients.

Towards the end of the year the Regional Hospital Authorities appointed an Orthodontist to attend the Royal Alexandra Hospital on two sessions each week. This question of orthodontia (irregular teeth) has for many years presented difficulties, as the time taken in the treatment of these cases extends over many months and in some cases several years. It is hoped that when the Orthodontist gets his present clinic established he may be persuaded to attend one session weekly, in an advisory capacity, at the School Clinic.

During the year 11,149 children were examined at the routine dental inspections and 7,254 (65.06%) were found to require treatment. The total number of children treated during the year was 6,704 and 16,075 attendances were made by these children for treatment. 1,765 of them made 4,541 attendances at the branch clinics.

The parents of 81·81% of the children found to have defective teeth at the routine inspections accepted the offer of treatment ; 80·29% of these children actually received treatment.

During the year 167 cases of irregularity of the teeth were treated by extraction ; 27 temporary and 307 permanent teeth were removed for this reason. In addition 30 deformities requiring the use of apparatus were treated and 33 appliances were fitted to correct the irregular teeth of these patients.

134 X-rays for diagnostic purposes were taken for dental patients and 46 for Orthopaedic cases.

Other operations in the statistical table (table V) include the following procedures : simple dressings, scalings, gum treatment, inlays, crowns, treatment and filling of root canals, extirpation of pulps, silver nitrate treatment, X-rays and orthodontic adjustments.

I wish to thank the members of the teaching profession for their valuable help and kindly co-operation.

TABLE I

A.—Periodic Medical Inspections

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :

Entrants	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,108
Second Age Group	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,469
Third Age Group	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,334
TOTAL							4,911
Number of other Periodic Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	843
GRAND TOTAL							5,754

B.—Other Inspections

Number of Special Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	4,181
Number of Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	..	5,647
						9,828

C.—Pupils Found to Require Treatment

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding Dental diseases and infestation with Vermin).

(No individual pupil should be recorded more than once in any column in this table, and therefore the total in column (4) will not necessarily be the same as the sum of columns (2) and (3).)

Group	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA	Total individual pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	16	659	653
Second Age Group	73	342	404
Third Age Group	43	217	255
Total (prescribed groups) ..	132	1,218	1,312
Other Periodic Inspections..	79	299	353
GRAND TOTAL	211	1,517	1,665

TABLE II

*A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspections in the year ended
31st December, 1953*

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease (1)	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
		Requiring treatment (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not re- quiring treatment (3)	Requiring treatment (4)	Requiring to be kept under obser- vation but not requiring treatment (5)
4	Skin	51	24	27	1
5	Eyes :				
	(a) Vision	211	270	160	57
	(b) Squint	91	17	56	5
	(c) Other	39	25	66	100
6	Ears :				
	(a) Hearing	23	29	8	2
	(b) Otitis Media	12	20	4	—
	(c) Other	10	14	—	—
7	Nose or Throat	532	702	211	152
8	Speech	65	20	55	13
9	Cervical Glands	7	223	5	3
10	Heart and Circulation	40	87	10	4
11	Lungs	77	124	87	35
12	Developmental :				
	(a) Hernia	—	2	—	—
	(b) Other	7	35	10	2
13	Orthopaedic :				
	(a) Posture	187	120	34	8
	(b) Flat foot	136	67	36	—
	(c) Other	303	137	112	26
14	Nervous System :				
	(a) Epilepsy	—	8	2	1
	(b) Other	20	58	18	13
15	Psychological :				
	(a) Development	1	4	1	1
	(b) Stability	13	2	23	5
16	Other	66	184	188	203

*B.—Classification of the General Condition of Pupils inspected during
the year in Age Groups*

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	A (Good)		B (Fair)		C (Poor)	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants	2,108	1,534	72.77	554	26.28	20	0.95
Second Age Group	1,469	980	66.71	459	31.25	30	2.04
Third Age Group	1,334	1,061	79.54	256	19.19	17	1.27
Other Periodic Inspec- tions	843	590	69.99	247	29.30	6	0.71
TOTAL	5,754	4,165	72.38	1,516	26.34	73	1.27

TABLE III*Infestation with Vermin*

(This relates to individual pupils and not to instances of infestation)

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons	48,515
(ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested ..	399
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) ..	399
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	2

TABLE IV*Group 1—Diseases of the Skin*

(excluding uncleanness, for which see Table III)

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
Ringworm : (i) Scalp	—	not available
(ii) Body	6	„
Scabies	7	„
Impetigo	54	„
Other skin diseases	347	„
TOTAL ...	414	„

Group 2—Eye Diseases, Defective Vision, and Squint

	Number of cases dealt with	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	291	not available
Errors of refraction (including squint)	—	758 <i>Eye Hos.</i> 434 <i>School Cl.</i>
TOTAL ...	291	1,192
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were :		
(a) Prescribed	—	565
(b) Obtained	—	459

Group 3—Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose, and Throat

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
Received operative treatment :		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	not available
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis ...	—	231
(c) for other nose and throat conditions ...	—	not available
Received other forms of treatment	332	„
TOTAL ...	332	231

Group 4—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals ...	—	7
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g. in clinics or out-patient departments	1,254	not known

Group 5—Child Guidance Treatment

	Number of cases treated	
	In the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics	Elsewhere
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	191	not known

Group 6—Speech Therapy

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists ...	267	not known

Group 7—Other Treatment Given

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments	2,195	not known
(b) Other than (a) above (specify)	—	—
TOTAL ...	2,195	—

TABLE V

Dental Inspection and Treatment carried out by the Authority

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :						
(a) Periodic	..	..	..	..	..	11,149
(b) Specials	..	..	..	..	..	2,602
TOTAL (1)						13,751
(2) Number found to require treatment (including specials)						
(3) Number referred for treatment (periodic inspections)						9,856
(4) Number actually treated (including specials)						7,254
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment						6,704
(6) Half-days devoted to : Inspection						16,075
Treatment						72
TOTAL (6)						2,208
(7) Fillings : Permanent Teeth						
Temporary Teeth						10,095
TOTAL (7)						437
(8) Number of teeth filled : Permanent Teeth						
Temporary Teeth						8,658
TOTAL (8)						415
(9) Extractions : Permanent Teeth						
Temporary Teeth						1,637
TOTAL (9)						7,434
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction						
(11) Other Operations : Permanent Teeth						966
Temporary Teeth						2,921
TOTAL (11)						1,222
						4,143

*Handicapped Pupils requiring education at Special Schools
or Boarding in Boarding Homes*

	(1) Blind (2) Partially sighted	(3) Deaf (4) Partially deaf	(5) Delicate (6) Physically handicapped	(7) Educationally Sub-normal (8) Maladjusted	(9) Epileptic	TOTAL 1—9
	(1) (2)	(3) (4)	(5) (6)	(7) (8)	(9)	(10)
In the calendar year ending 31st Dec., 1953 :						
A. Handicapped Pupils <i>newly placed</i> in special schools or homes ...	— 2	2 1	48 7*	2 Boar. 23 Day 7	1	93
B. Handicapped Pupils <i>newly ascer- tained</i> as requiring education at special schools or boarding in homes ...	1 1	1 1	41 5	2 Boar. 21 Day 9	2	84

*Including 1 speech defect.

Number of children reported during the year :

(a) under Section 57 (3) (excluding any returned under (b) )	...	...	...	8
(b) „ „ „ relying on Section 57 (4) ...	...	...	...	1
(c) „ „ „ (5) ...	...	...	...	17

of the Education Act 1944.

	(1) Blind (2) Partially sighted		(3) Deaf (4) Partially deaf		(5) Delicate (6) Physically handicapped		(7) Educationally Sub-normal (8) Maladjusted		(9) Epileptic	TOTAL 1—9
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
On or about Dec. 1st, 1953 :										
C. Number of Handicapped Pupils from the area :										
(1) Attending special schools as										
(a) Day Pupils	—	—	—	4	—	—	100	—	—	104
(b) Boarding Pupils ...	3	5	8	2	24	18	5	6	3	74
(2) Boarded in Homes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
(3) Attending independent schools under arrangements made by the Authority ...	—	—	3 board 5 day	—	—	—	3	1	—	12
TOTAL (C) ...	3	5	16	6	24	18	108	9	3	192
D. Number of Handicapped Pupils being educated under arrangements made under Sec- tion 56 of the Education Act, 1944 :										
(a) in hospitals			(general sickness)							16
(b) elsewhere ...	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	1	10
E. Number of Handicapped Pupils from the area requiring places in special schools (including any such unplaced children who are temporarily re- ceiving home tuition) ...	1	—	—	4	2	5	1 board 17 day	6	1	37

